ANIMA™

10

Natsumi Mukai

TOKYOPOP®

ANIMA

Volume 10

by Natsumi Mukai

TOKYOPOP®

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+ANIMA

プラスアニマ

迎夏生
NATSUMI MUKAI

+ANIMA Volume 10
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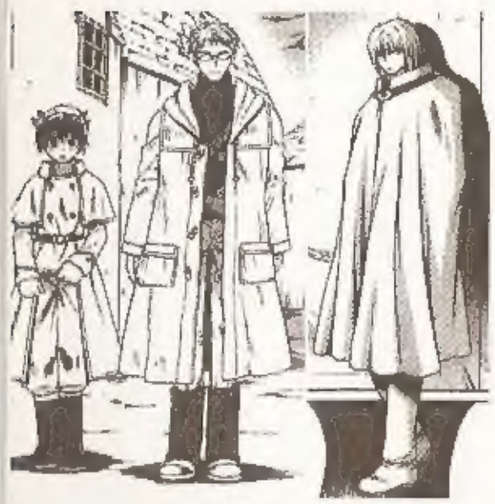
In Astaria, the four arrive in the pious town of Fantale. The people there believe in the words of an angel that appears on foggy mornings, and give him offerings. Cooro, realizing that Cyranova is merely a swan +Anima with white wings, and that there are suspicious men with their eye on him, tells Cyranova that he should get out of town.

Because he feels he's finally found a place to belong by pretending to be an angel, Cyranova tries to chase Cooro out of town by telling the townspeople that he is a "messenger of death." But when he's attacked by the suspicious men, Cooro and the others save him, and Cyranova starts to look for a way to live without lying about who he is.

After that, Cooro and Senri decide to take part in a +Anima organized by Astaria. At the race, Cooro is reunited with Lyra, who grew up with him at the church long ago. Lyra, who had been reborn as a swallow +Anima, ignores Cooro, and takes the lead in the beginning of the race. When she's injured in an accident, however, she loses the anima that Fly implanted in her at the National Research Facility. Meanwhile, Fly and Marca have suddenly appeared at the racing grounds. Fly, who acts like he knows Cooro, suggests that Cooro stop by Kilter, the town with the church where he grew up, but...



フライ [Fly]

A researcher studying +Anima at the Astarian National Research Facility. He seems to have met Cooro sometime in the past.

マルカ [Marca]

A novice researcher who works at the Astarian National Research Facility as Fly's assistant. She loves +Anima but is a little scatterbrained.

イグナス[Igneous]

An Astarian soldier. He and Fly have been friends since childhood. He hates +Anima because his grand-father was killed by one long ago.

ブランカ [Blanca]

???

All the mysteries will be revealed at last!

ナナ [Nana]

Bat +Anima. She can fly and has an ultrasonic screech. She loves pretty clothes and is scared of forests at night.

STORY & CHARACTERS

クーロ[Cooro]

Crow +Anima. He spreads his pitch-black wings and soars to the sky. He's always on the lookout for something to eat.

ハスキー[Husky]

Fish +Anima. He can swim freely through water like a merman. He's a little stubborn, and doesn't like girls.

センリ[Senri]

Bear +Anima. His sharp-clawed arm is amazingly strong. He doesn't talk very much.

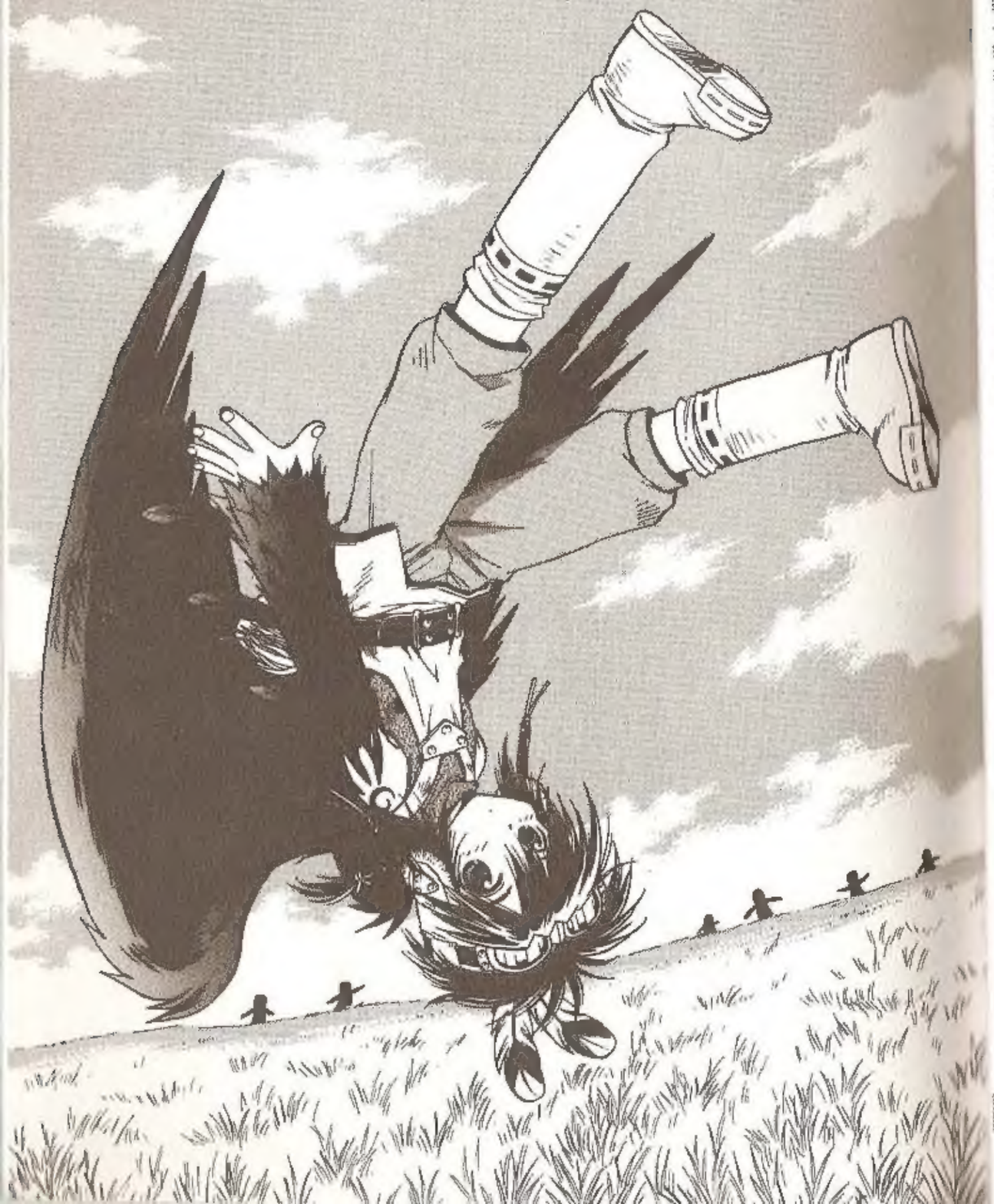
In this world, there are those known as +Anima: humans who have within them the powers of animals. Cooro, a crow +Anima, meets Husky, a fish +Anima, who was putting on a mermaid princess sideshow, and takes him away from the circus.

Cooro and Husky travel together and are joined by Senri, a bear +Anima who was hired to protect veins of gold ore in the village of Abon, and Nana, a bat +Anima they met during the "pearl thief" incident in the underground ruins beneath the metropolis of Octopus. And so, the four children's adventures begin.

With many stops on their way, they meet various people and strengthen their own bonds of friendship. After going to Senri's homeland, Moss Mountain, Cooro and the others head to Sailand, Husky's birthplace, because he wished to be reunited with his mother, from whom he had been separated.

Because +Anima are treated as slaves in Sailand, Cooro and the others face many dangers including an attack from slave hunters, but they are able to meet Husky's mother, Marein, nevertheless. Having accomplished his goal, Husky decides to leave Sailand. He boards a boat with Cooro and the others, and heads once again to Astaria.

Chapter 51
The White Shadow



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THE YELLOW VALLEY +ANIMA ONLY RACE...

...SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN A SUC-CESS.

YES.

ACCORDING TO THE REPORT FROM RESEARCH FACILITY 8, WE GATHERED SOME EXCELLENT +ANIMA.

SO IT WOULD SEEM.

FACILITY 8?!

LORD FLY GREENA AIGHT IS THE HEAD OF THAT FACILITY. WHAT COULD HE BE UP TO?

HE'S THE KING'S NEPHEW!

IF WE ADOPT +ANIMA INTO ASTARIAN SOCIETY, ESPECIALLY INTO THE MILITARY...

...THEN AS DIRECTOR OF THE FACILITY THAT MANAGES +ANIMA, LORD GREENA AIGHT WOULD GAIN MORE POWER!

LORD GREENA AIGHT MAY NOT CARE MUCH FOR POLITICS...

...BUT THAT ALOOF ATTITUDE OF HIS MAKES HIM ALL THE MORE SUSPICIOUS.

WE CAN'T BE SURE THAT HIS MAJESTY WON'T APPOINT LORD GREENA AIGHT AS THE NEXT KING.

WE MUST AVOID THAT.

THE HEIR TO THE THRONE, PRINCE YURIEL, IS STILL VERY YOUNG.

If only his elder brother hadn't died falling from his horse.

HAVEN'T YOU HEARD THE RUMORS THAT ARE GOING AROUND THE CASTLE?

YOU LOOK CARE-FREE AS EVER.

OH. HI, IGGY.

SSSSSS...

YES?

FLY!

THEY SAY I'M USING +ANIMA TO TRY TO TAKE OVER ASTARIA, RIGHT?

THEY'RE HILARI-OUS.

RU-MORS?

I KNOW.

HEY, HEY.

IT'S NOTHING FOR *YOU* TO GET SO WORKED UP ABOUT, IGGY.

IDIOT!

THAT ATTITUDE OF YOURS MAKES PEOPLE SUSPECT YOU EVEN MORE!

BUT IF PEOPLE ARE TRYING TO GET IN THE WAY OF MY FUN...

...I'LL HAVE TO THINK ABOUT IT.

LORD NUOREF COULD HAVE YOU ASSASSI-NATED!

YOU LITTLE ...

Don't worry me like that!

Let's go try the new menu at the Royal Dining Hall.

I have coupons! ♪

...

PAT PAT

?

Aaaah!

WOW, IT'S COLD!

BUT IT STILL FEELS GREAT!

HOW DOES COORO KNOW FLY?

WELL, COORO...

I KNOW HIM. BUT DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. ♪

...THAT'S ALL HE'LL SAY!

WHICH MAKES ME EVEN MORE WORRIED!

...

I DON'T KNOW!

OH. I SEE. ♪

FLY LOVES +ANIMA RESEARCH, AND COORO WAS A UNIQUE +ANIMA...

...SO I DON'T THINK FLY WOULD HAVE LEFT HIM ALONE.

COORO WAS TAKEN TO THE RESEARCH FACILITY BEFORE I WAS.

AND BY THE TIME I WENT THERE, HE WAS ALREADY GONE.

SO I DON'T KNOW HOW THINGS WERE WITH COORO AND FLY.

...

YOU'RE A +ANIMA, TOO, AREN'T YOU?

HE ACTUALLY TURNED NORMAL PEOPLE INTO +ANIMA?

+ANIMA RESEARCH, YOU MEAN LIKE YOUR ANIMA IMPLANT?

IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE +ANIMA BECAUSE WE WANT TO BE.

IF YOU DON'T LIKE YOUR ANIMA, WHY NOT HAVE THE RESEARCH FACILITY TAKE IT FROM YOU?

I HEARD SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

THEY IMPLANT AND REMOVE ANIMA AND ANIMAL BODIES, AND MAKE ARTIFICIAL +ANIMA.

TH-THEY CAN DO THAT?!

COOKO'S PRETTY SUSPICIOUS, Y'KNOW.

HE MIGHT BE LYING ABOUT BEING BORN A +ANIMA.

OOH! THE CARRIAGE IS WAITING!

GOOO-BYE!

LIMP LIMP

LIMP

"SUSPICIOUS"... SUSPICIOUS?

IT CAN'T BE.

COOKO IS SUSPICIOUS?

HUSKY ...

COME HERE!

HUH?!

...OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

THIS IS WHY I HATE GIRLS!

WHAT? THAT'S RIDICULOUS!

NORMALLY, HUSKY WOULD SAY...

...

H-HUSKY!

I...

SO WHY ISN'T HE SAYING ANYTHING?

WHY IS HE MAKING THAT FACE?!

WE HAVE TO HURRY BACK.

WE SHOULDN'T LEAVE WITHOUT TELLING THE OTHERS.

<3

WHAT'RE WE DOING OUT HERE?

...

DON'T GO!!

HUH?

COORO, A MAN-MADE +ANIMA?

GYA!

TO KILTER?

IS COORO A MAN-MADE +ANIMA?

YEAH, I GUESS NOT.

YEAH. IT'S CLOSE TO HERE, AND THERE'S NO REASON TO GO OUT OF OUR WAY TO AVOID IT, RIGHT?

I THINK THEY'LL LET US STAY THE NIGHT AT THE CHURCH.

WE MIGHT LEARN SOMETHING THERE!

LET'S GO THEN.

KILTER, THE TOWN THAT HAS THE CHURCH COORO GREW UP IN.

LIKE HE HAD NATURALLY ACCEPTED HIS ANIMA...

...LIKE HE WAS BORN A +ANIMA.

I THOUGHT COORO WAS DIFFERENT FROM THE REST OF US, TOO.

ME, YOU, EVEN SENRI, RIGHT?

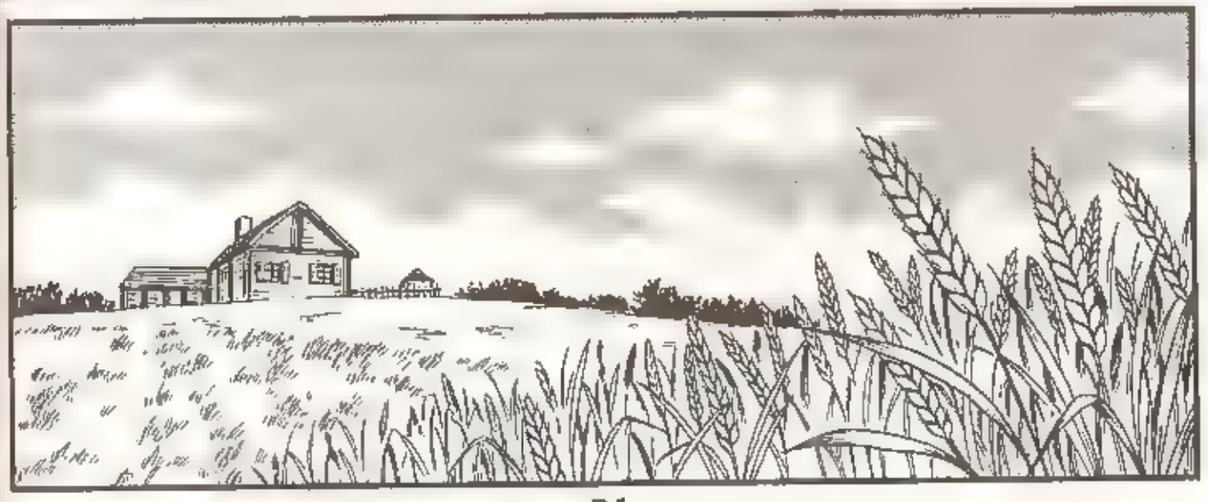
BUT I'VE NEVER HEARD OF ANYONE BEING BORN A +ANIMA!

EVERYONE... BECAME A +ANIMA WHEN... SOMETHING HAPPENED.

SO ...

SO ...

SKIPPING OVER THE BLUE WATER!
SPARKLING, HAPPY SILVER FINS!



OH! YOU'RE TALLER THOUGH!

WOW, YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT!

COORO, IS THAT YOU?

COORO?!

HUUUH?!

YOU WERE THE OLDEST KID AT THE CHURCH.

OH! RAINE!

LET'S HURRY BACK TO THE CHURCH!

CAN YOU STAY THE NIGHT TONIGHT?

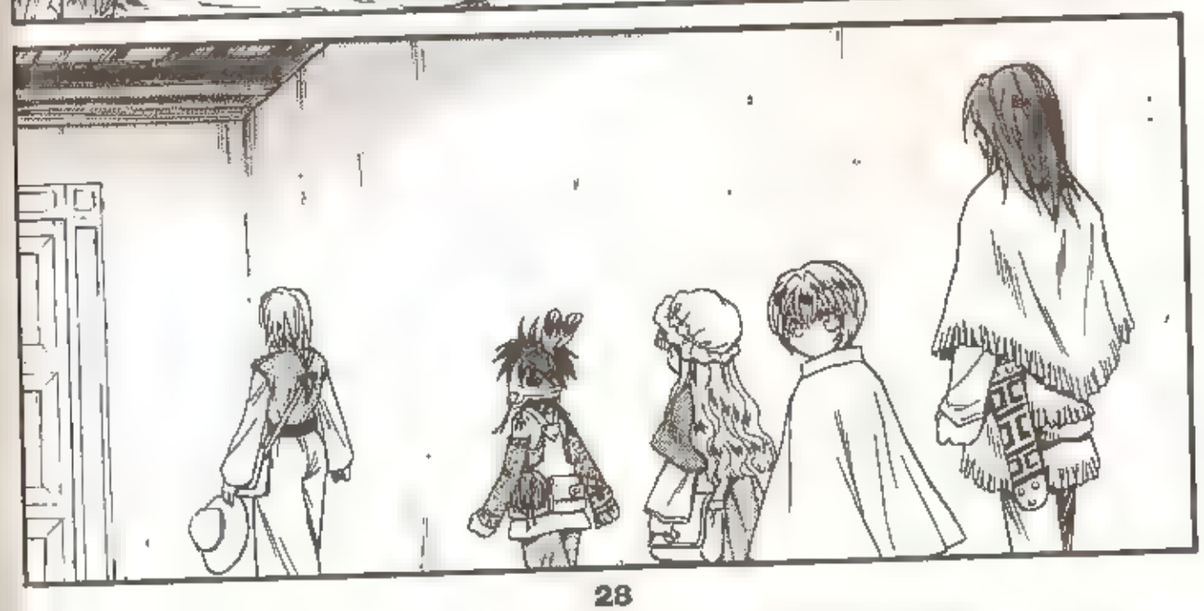
THE MOTHER SUPERIOR WILL BE HAPPY TO SEE YOU!

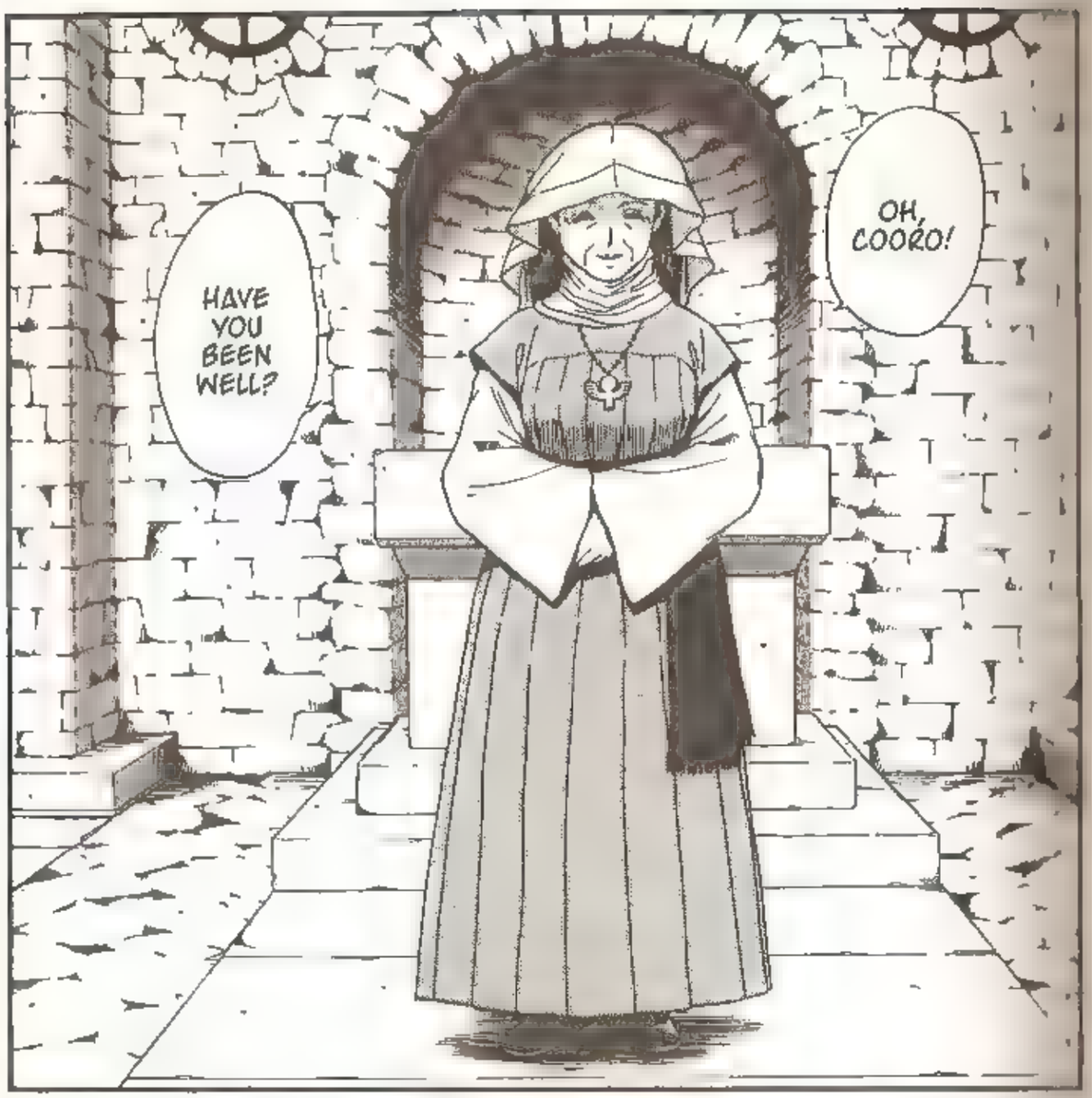
THANK YOU FOR THE YUMMY FISH!

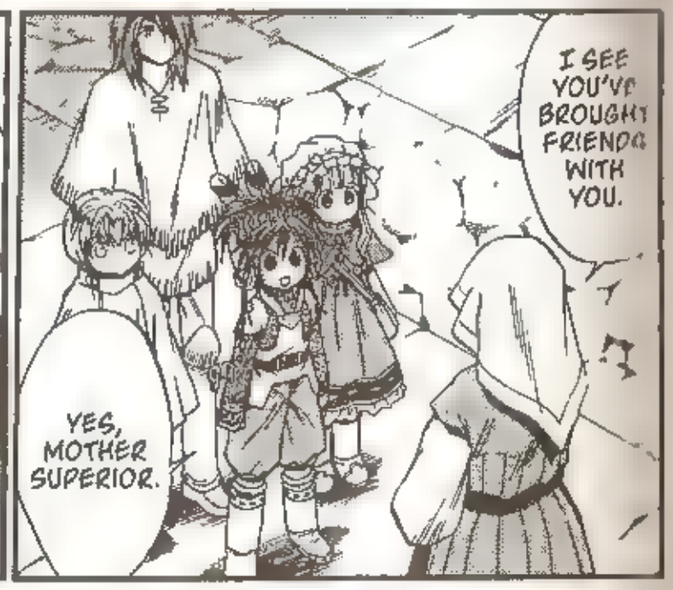
SUPPLE, LIVELY WHITE BELLIES!

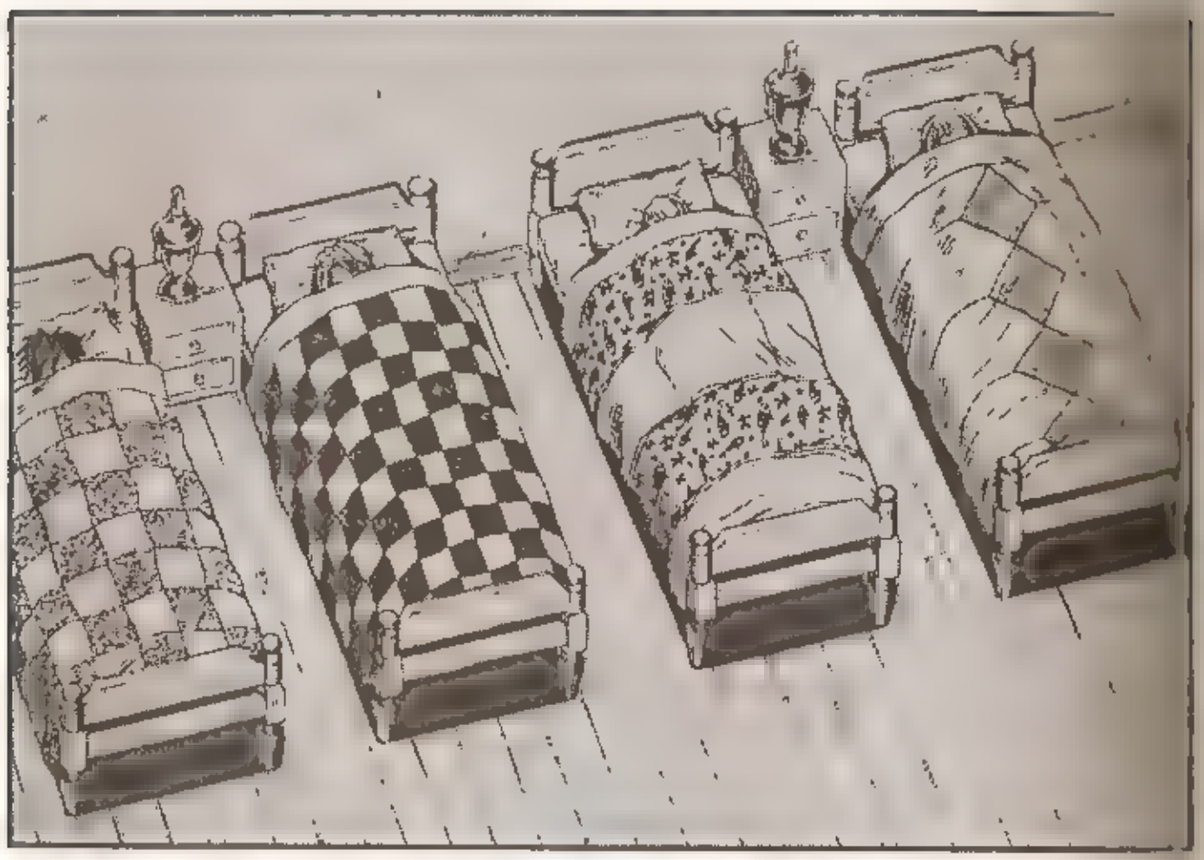
.. SOMETHING COORO WOULD SING

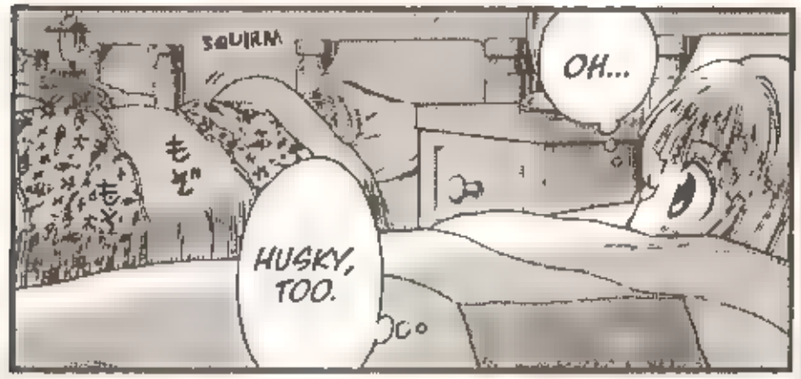
THAT SOUNDS LIKE ..

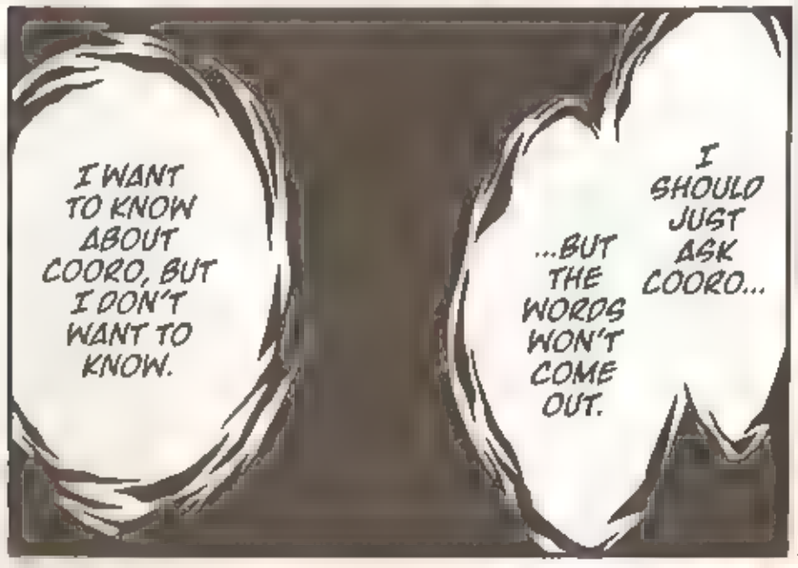


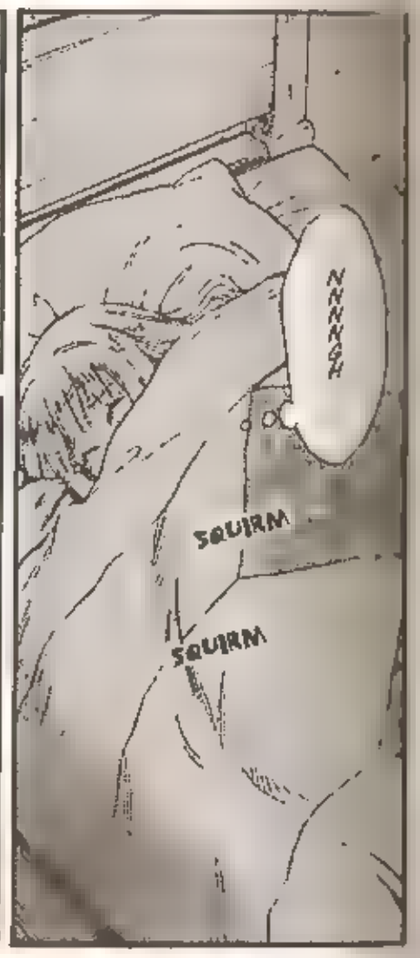

HAVE YOU BEEN WELL?
OH, COOKO!


I SEE YOU'VE BROUGHT FRIENDS WITH YOU.
YES, MOTHER SUPERIOR.

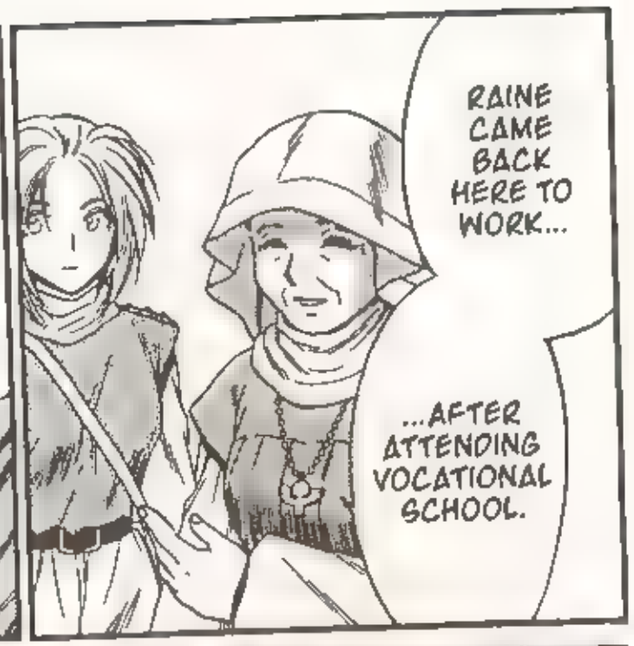


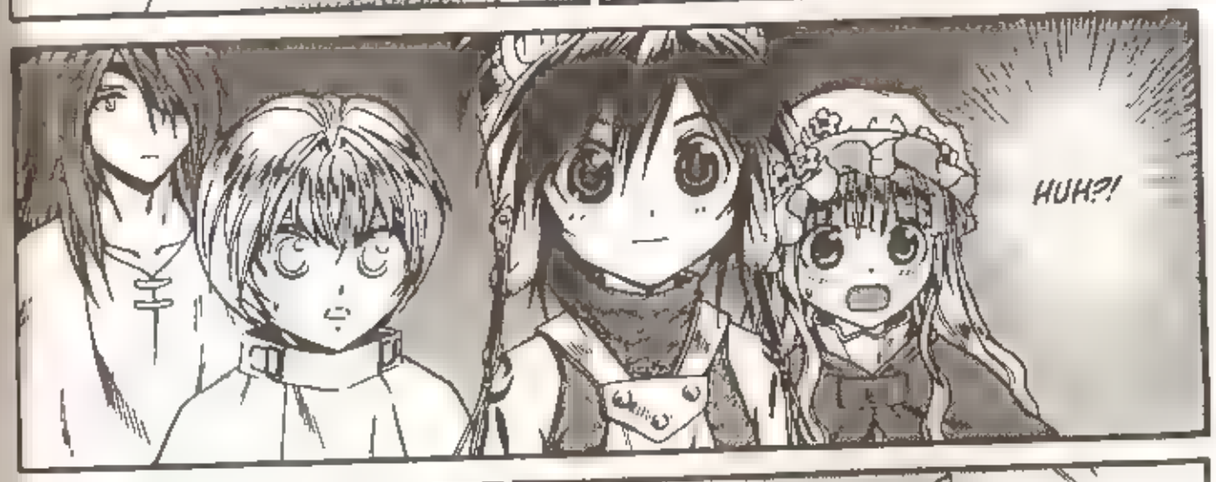

SQUIRM
OH...
HUSKY, TOO.

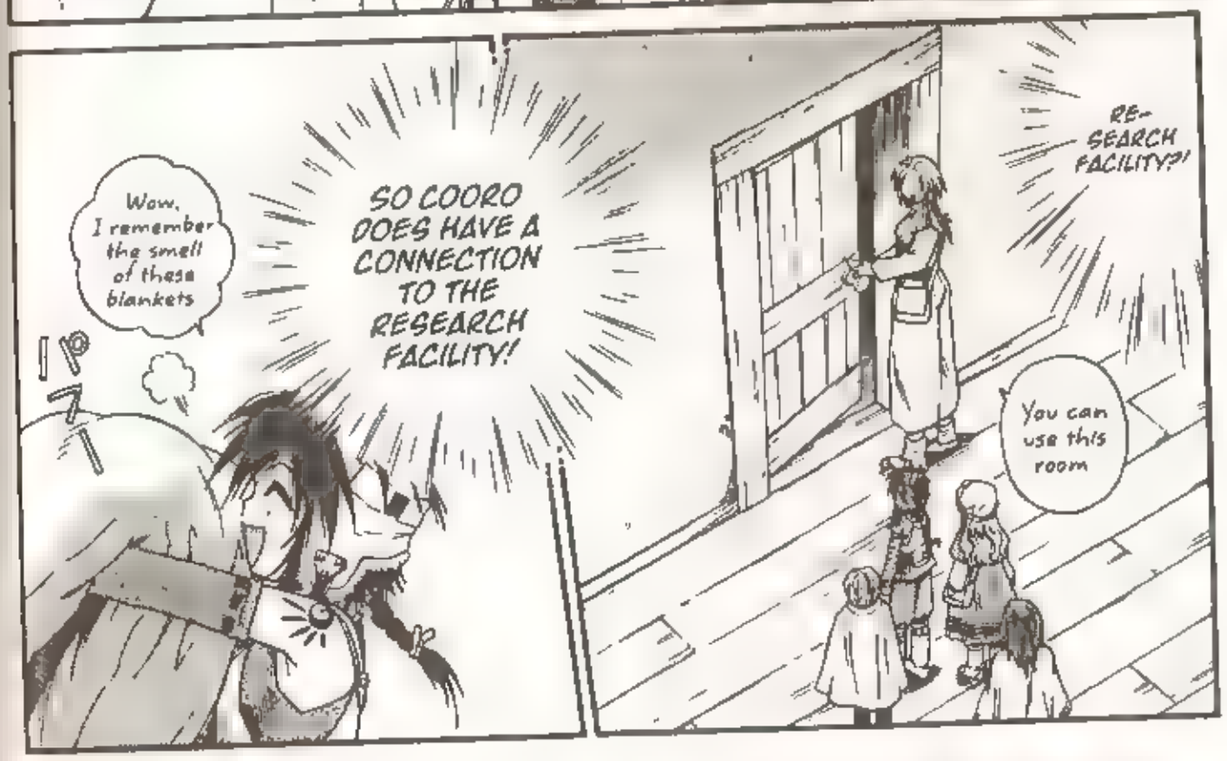

I WANT TO KNOW ABOUT COORO, BUT I DON'T WANT TO KNOW.
...BUT THE WORDS WON'T COME OUT.
I SHOULD JUST ASK COORO...


NNNNGH
SQUIRM
SQUIRM

I HEARD YOU WERE A FINE WORKER AT THE RESEARCH FACILITY, COORO.
I'M GLAD YOU SEEM WELL.


RAINE CAME BACK HERE TO WORK...
...AFTER ATTENDING VOCATIONAL SCHOOL.


HUH?!


Wow. I remember the smell of these blankets
SO COORO DOES HAVE A CONNECTION TO THE RESEARCH FACILITY!
RE-SEARCH FACILITY?!
You can use this room

むっくり

Gasp!

I'M SURE HUSKY FEELS THE SAME WAY.

EEK...

POP

WH--

WHAT IS THAT?

A GHOST?!

I DID IT!

WHOA!

OH NO! IT DIDN'T WORK!

OH!

HUSKY! GET UP!

ARGH!

NOW GO BACK TO BED!

IT'S ALL RIGHT. THIS PLACE IS PROTECTED BY GOD.

GHOST?

AAAW

OH! A GHOST

A WHITE SHADOW?

GHOST!

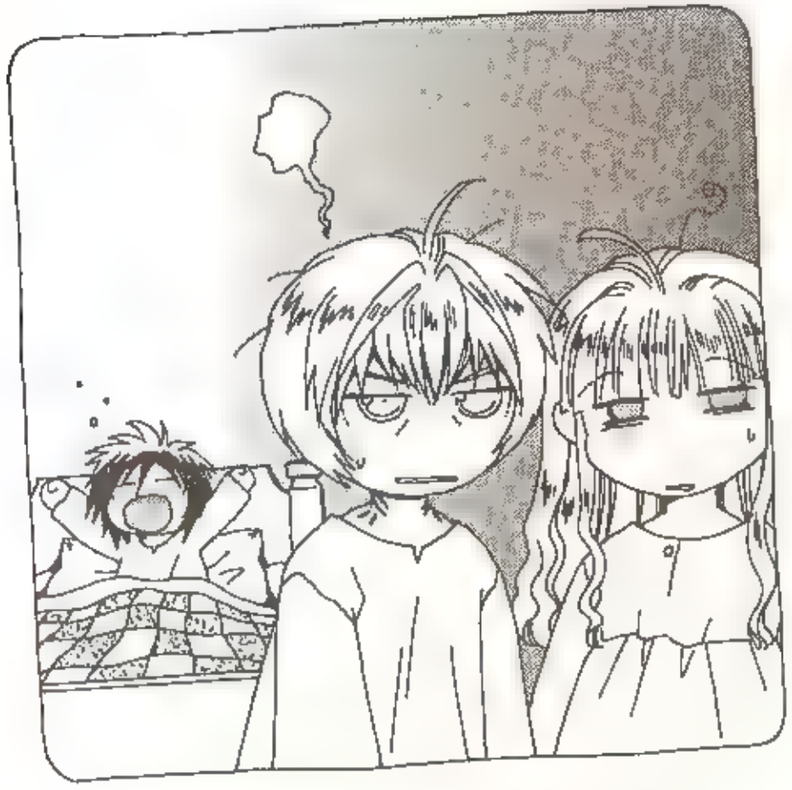
WHAT ON EARTH...?

He's already asleep

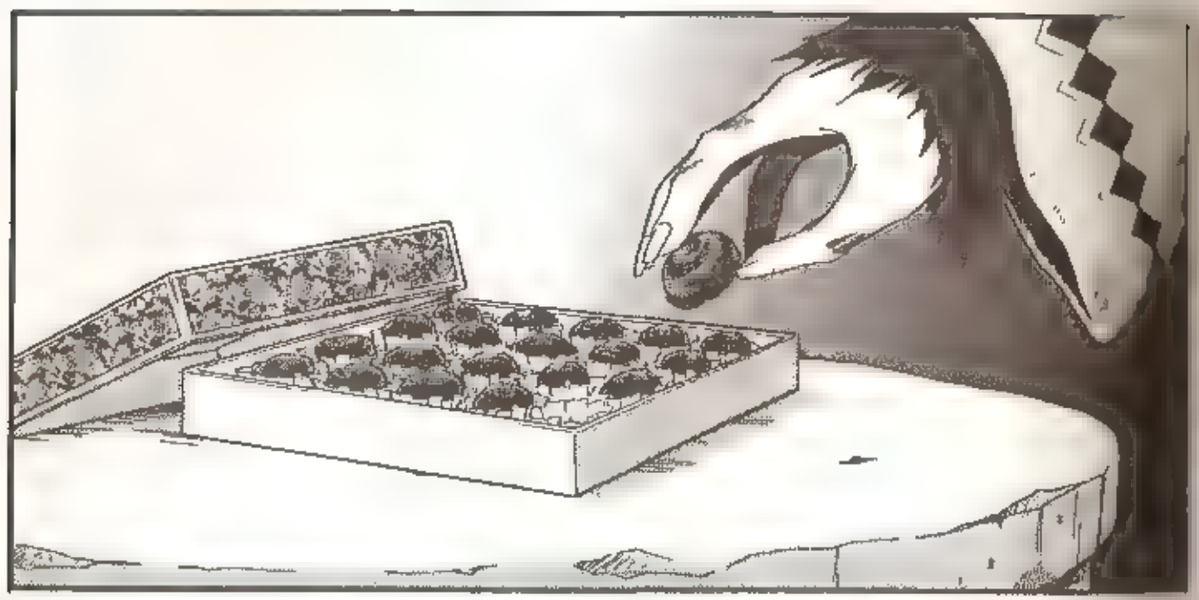
Zzz

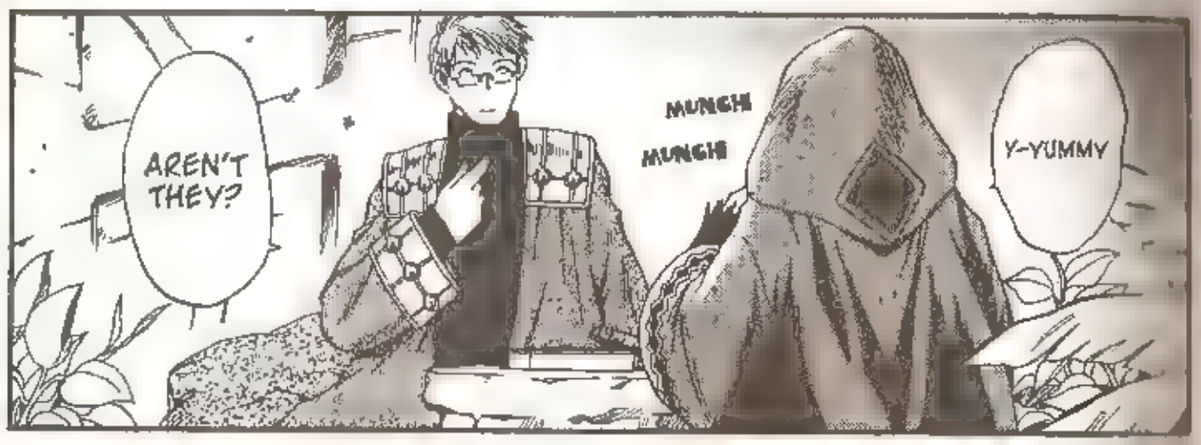
IT DIS-APPEARED

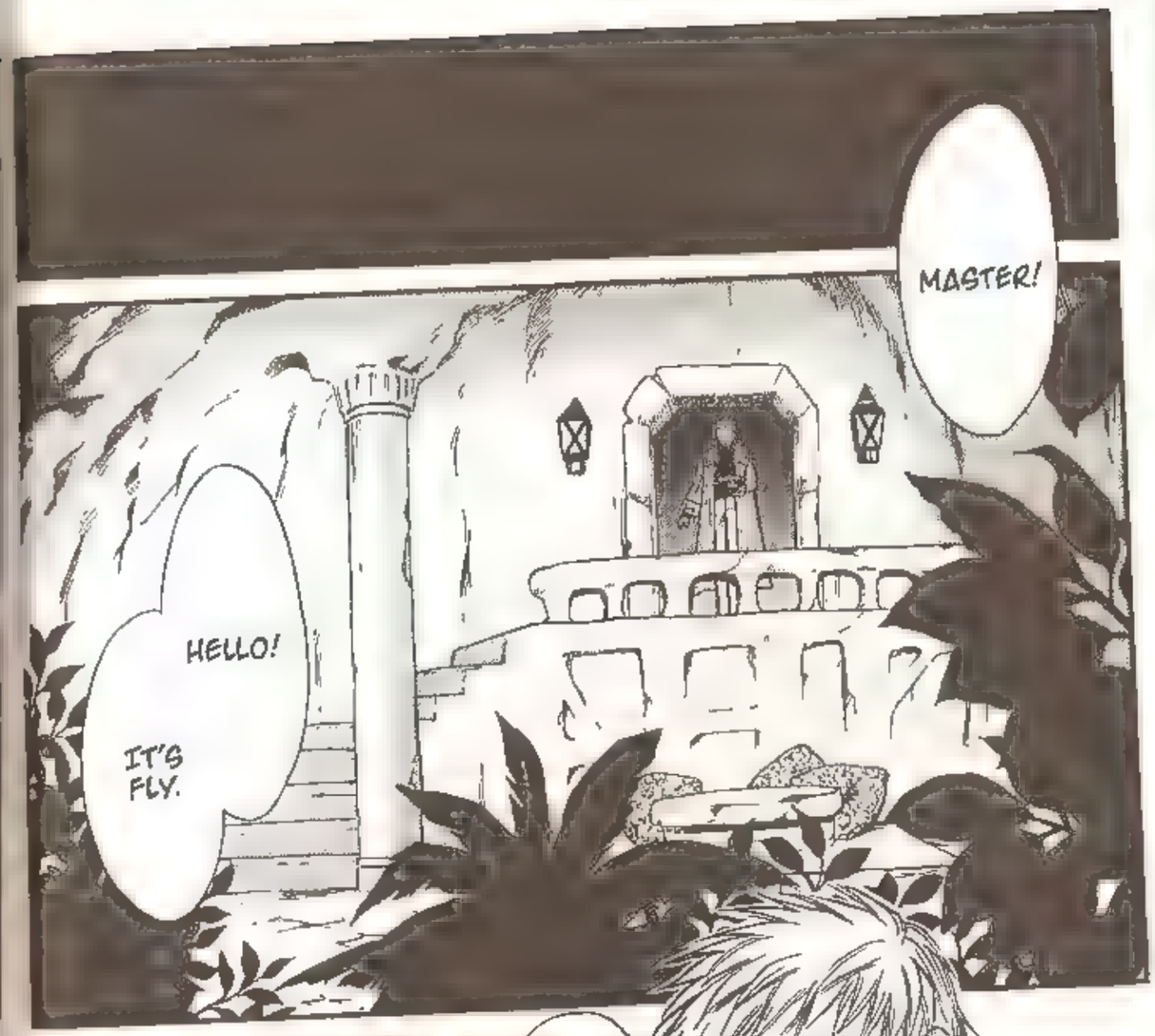
Chapter 52
Opening Pandora's Box

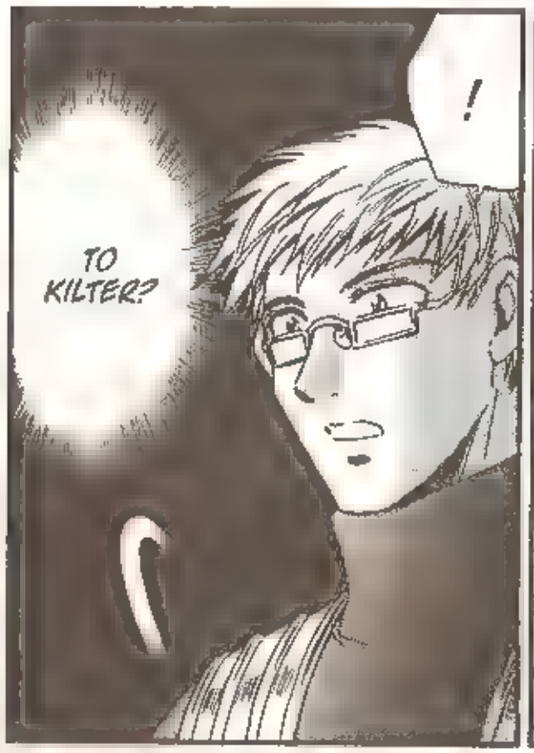


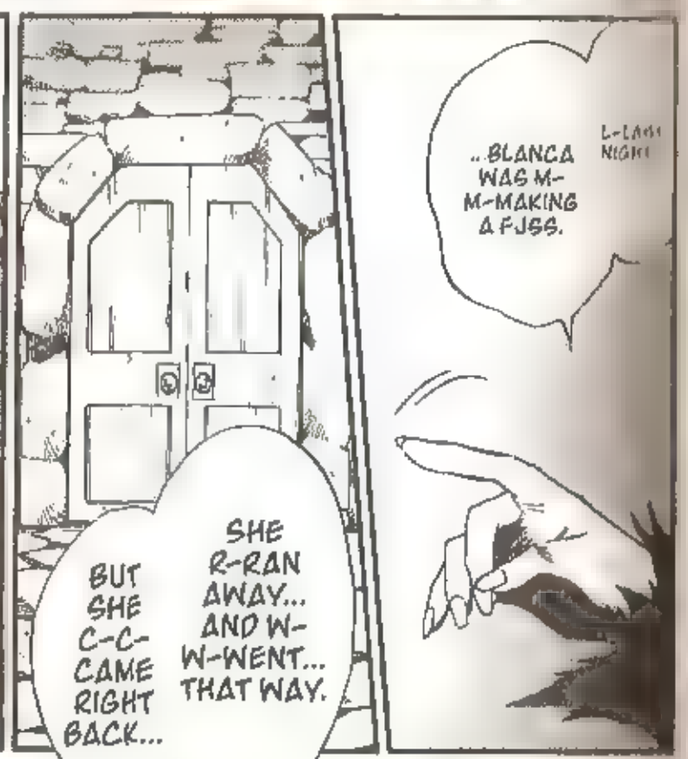
We were not able to sleep.

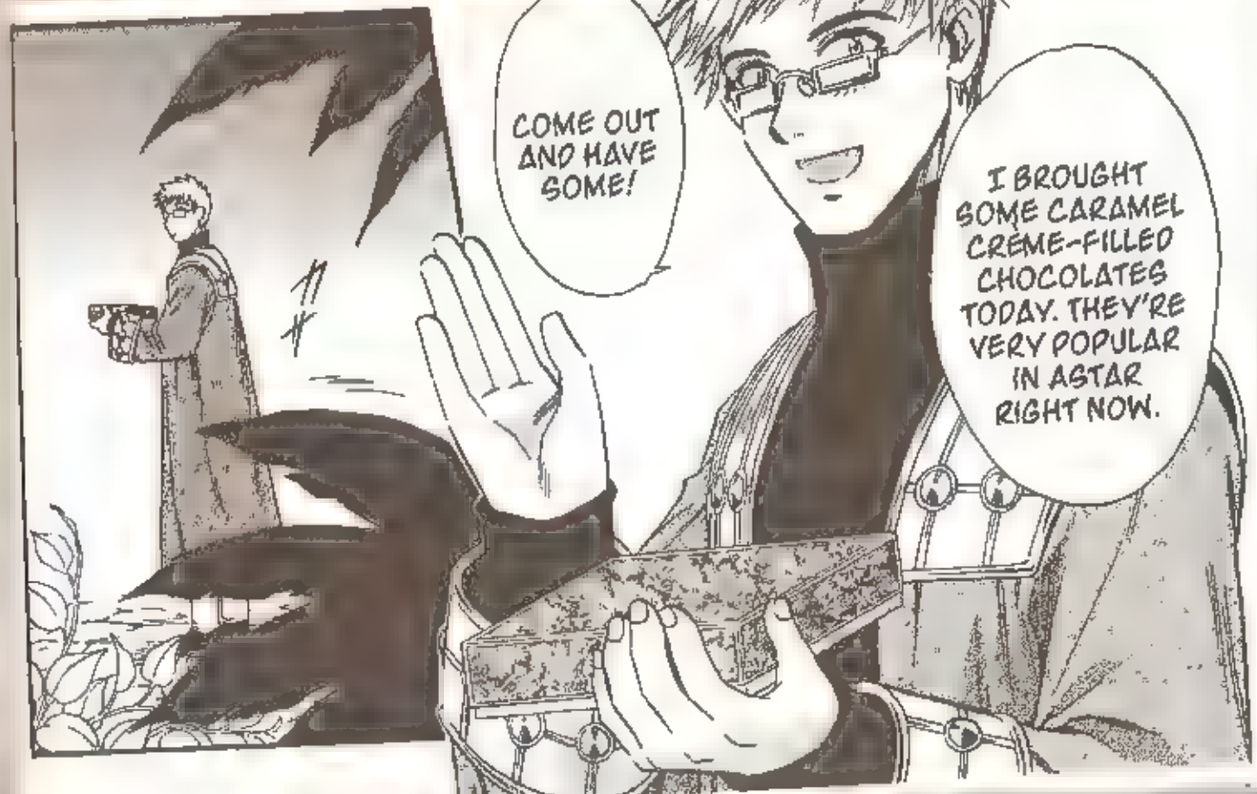



AREN'T THEY?
MUNCH
MUNCH
Y-YUMMY


MASTER!
HELLO!
IT'S FLY.


!
TO KILTER?


..BLANCA WAS M-M-MAKING A FUSS.
L-LAST NIGHT
BUT SHE C-C-CAME RIGHT BACK...
SHE R-RAN AWAY... AND W-W-WENT... THAT WAY.


COME OUT AND HAVE SOME!
I BROUGHT SOME CARAMEL CREME-FILLED CHOCOLATES TODAY. THEY'RE VERY POPULAR IN ASTAR RIGHT NOW.

HOW CAN YOU GO RIGHT BACK TO SNORING AFTER YOU AND THAT WEIRD THING WERE STARING AT EACH OTHER?!

ARGH, COORO! IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH YOU?

...

SERIOUSLY. WE COULDN'T GET TO SLEEP UNTIL MORNING.

Sigh...

HUH?

THAT SHOWS JUST HOW MUCH HER ANIMA HAS GROWN.

SHE MUST BE RESTLESS BECAUSE THE BLACK ANGEL IS IN KILTER RIGHT NOW.

SHE'S HOPELESS.

I WONDER... IS IT ALMOST TIME?

IS THAT WHY THE BLACK ANGEL CAME BACK?

I WONDER IF IT REALLY WAS A GHOST.

THIS IS A CHURCH, AFTER ALL THERE'S A GRAVEYARD HERE.

WHAT, WHAT?

A GHOST?

Gyaaah

THINKING BACK ON IT NOW, IT'S SCARY!

?!!

THE ALTAR?!

YES. I CHASED IT, BUT IT DISAPPEARED UNDER THE ALTAR!

SHE'S ALWAYS TELLING US THAT.

WE'RE NOT ALLOWED TO TOUCH IT

A GHOST YOU MUST HAVE IMAGINED IT

YOU MUSTN'T TOUCH IT CARELESSLY.

THE ALTAR IS THE MOST SACRED PLACE IN THIS CHURCH.

IT SEEMS LIKE THEY DON'T WANT US GOING NEAR THE ALTAR.

ARE THEY HIDING SOMETHING?

THAT'S SUSPICIOUS!!

YOU AGREE IT'S WEIRD, RIGHT?

WE STILL HAVEN'T LEARNED ANYTHING ABOUT COORO, AFTER ALL.

THEN LET'S TAKE OUR TIME!

'KAY?

AREN'T YOU HAPPY TO BE BACK WHERE YOU GREW UP?

WE JUST GOT HERE YESTERDAY.

YEAH, I AM.

THERE YOU ARE!

AH!

YAAAY! ♡ A PICNIC! ♡♡

IS THAT OKAY WITH YOU, COORO?

HUH?

RAIN!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME, TOO?

WE'RE HAVING A PICNIC WITH EVERYONE FROM THE CHURCH THIS AFTERNOON

NANA?

COME ON, COME ON!

LET'S GO!

COORO!

Gasp!

DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING, COORO?

AND YOU SLEPT SO MUCH LAST NIGHT. ARE YOU *STILL* SLEEPY?

YOU KEEP SPACING OUT!

OH... WHAT?

YOU KNOW, I WAS JUST WONDERING...

WHEN ARE WE GONNA LEAVE?

UH-UH.

WE'VE BEEN TRICKED.

Hooray Yaaay

Huuugs!

IT'S A PICNIC BECAUSE WE'LL HAVE FUN COOKING THE POTATOES WHEN WE'RE DONE PICKING THEM

THAT DARN COORO

HE WAS OUT OF IT EARLIER, BUT NOW THAT FOOD'S INVOLVED, HE SURE IS ENERGETIC.

HUSKY, HUSKY.

COME OVER HERE.

すぽっ

YAAAY! THEY'RE SO BIG!

SPLONK

ME, TOO! LOOK!

YAAAY!

LOOK AT THE BIG ONES I GOT!

POTATOES. ♡

ズボボボ

THIS IS A PICNIC?!

ゴロゴロ

IF WE WANT TO INVESTIGATE THE ALTAR...

...NOW'S OUR CHANCE!!

HUH?!

I'VE GOT IT!!

CLICK

THOSE TWO THINGS MUST HOLD THE KEY TO COORO'S SECRET!

MM

COORO ONLY STARTED WANTING TO LEAVE THE CHURCH...

...AFTER WE SAW THE WHITE SHADOW AND WERE TALKING ABOUT THE ALTAR.

IF WE JUST LEAVE THE CHURCH WITHOUT INVESTIGATING...

...I DON'T THINK WE'LL EVER GET ANOTHER CHANCE TO FIND OUT ABOUT COORO.

WE CAME HERE TO LEARN ABOUT COORO, RIGHT?

I WANT TO KNOW...

...BUT I'M NERVOUS.

ME, TOO.

ウ

ウ

ジュウ

I FORGOT WHERE I WAS FOR A SECOND.

HEH HEH HEH.

ジュウ

ジュウ

HMM... WHAT'LL I DO?

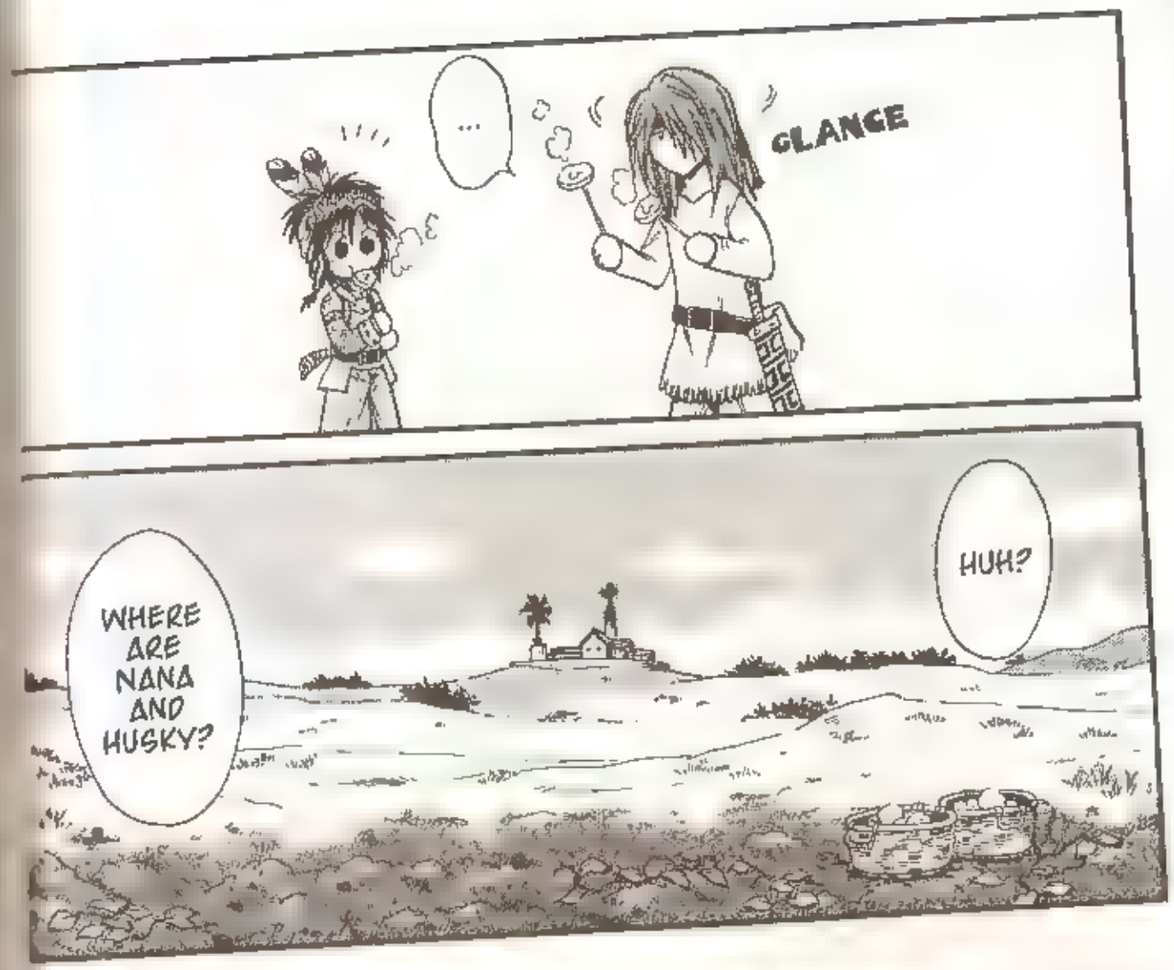
ホカ

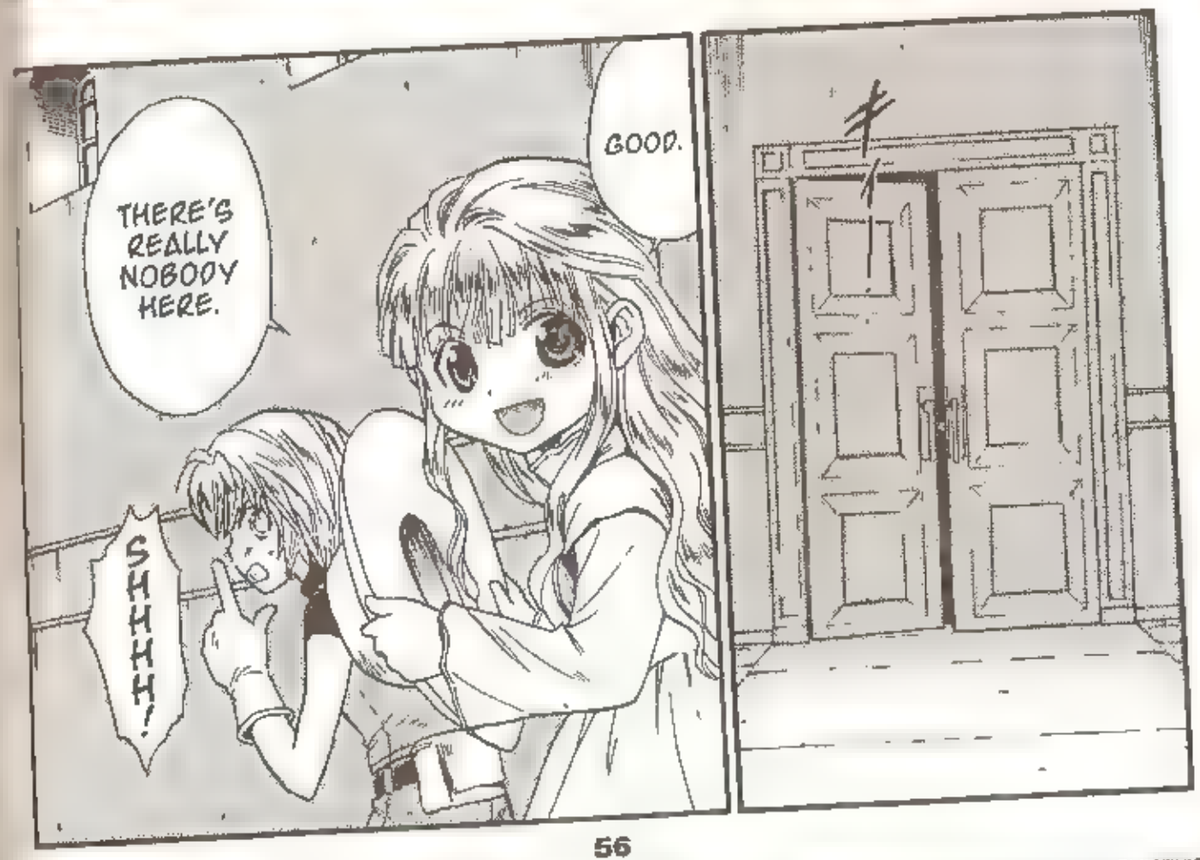
ホカ

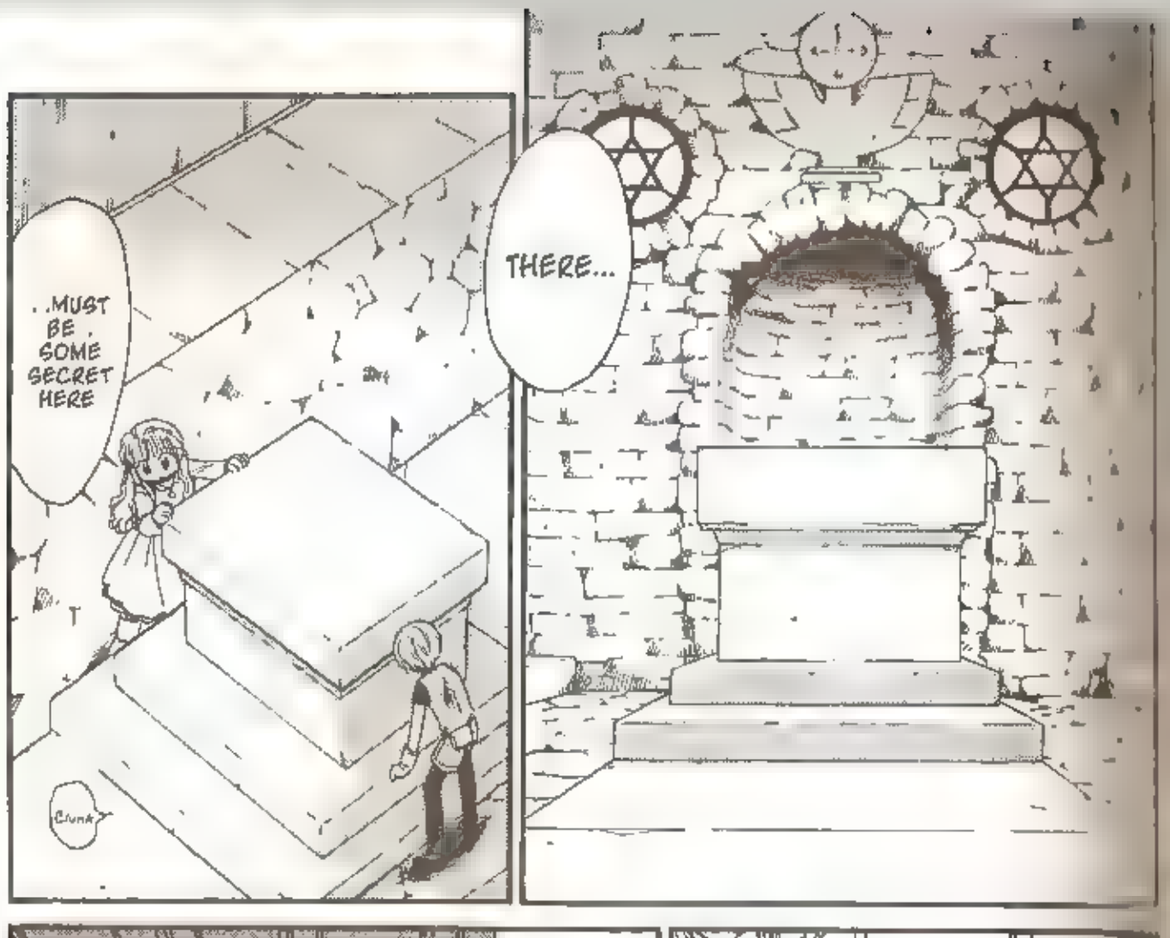
ホカ

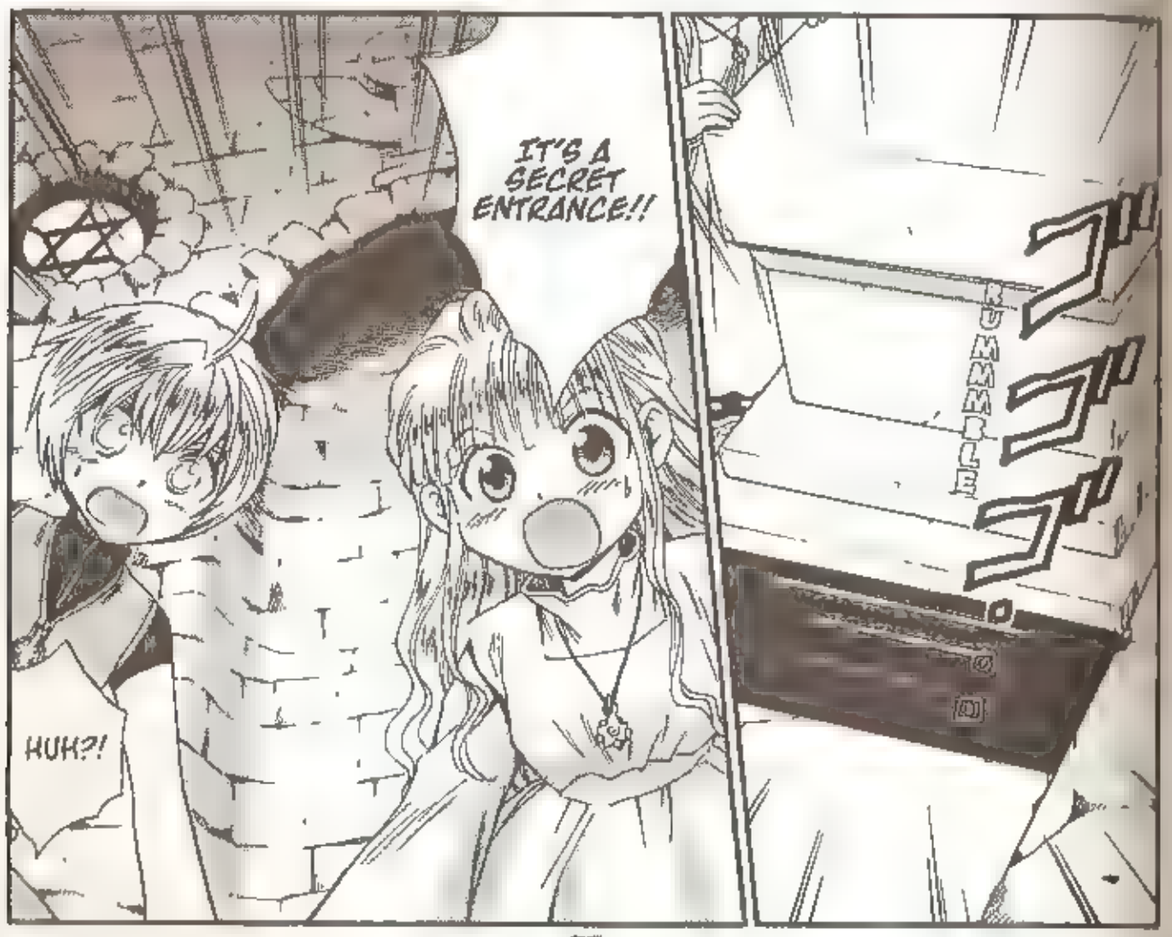
THANKS

SENRI


...
GLANCE
WHERE ARE NANA AND HUSKY?
HUH?


THERE'S REALLY NOBODY HERE.
GOOD.
SHHHH!


..MUST BE SOME SECRET HERE
THERE...


IT'S A SECRET ENTRANCE!!
HUH?!
RUMMBLE
ゴゴゴゴ

HEY, NANA. BE CAREFUL. DON'T TOUCH THAT.

WHAT'S THIS?

HJSKY, HURRY!

THERE'S A LADDER!

WHY DID IT OPEN?

A SECRET ENTRANCE SHOULD HAVE BEEN LOCKED.

?

Ka-chank

IS THIS CAR FOR TRANSPORTING SOMETHING?

HUH?!

!!

ACK!!

NANAAA!!

WAAAH!
WAAAIT!!

HUSKY!!

H-
HUSKY!

NANA!

...NA...!!

NA...

IS THAT SO?

THEY WEREN'T IN THE FIELD, SO I THOUGHT THEY MIGHT HAVE COME BACK TO THE CHURCH.

BUT THEY'RE NOT HERE.

NANAAA?

HUSKYYY!

I GUESS...

...HUSKY AND NANA WENT DOWN THERE.

HUH?

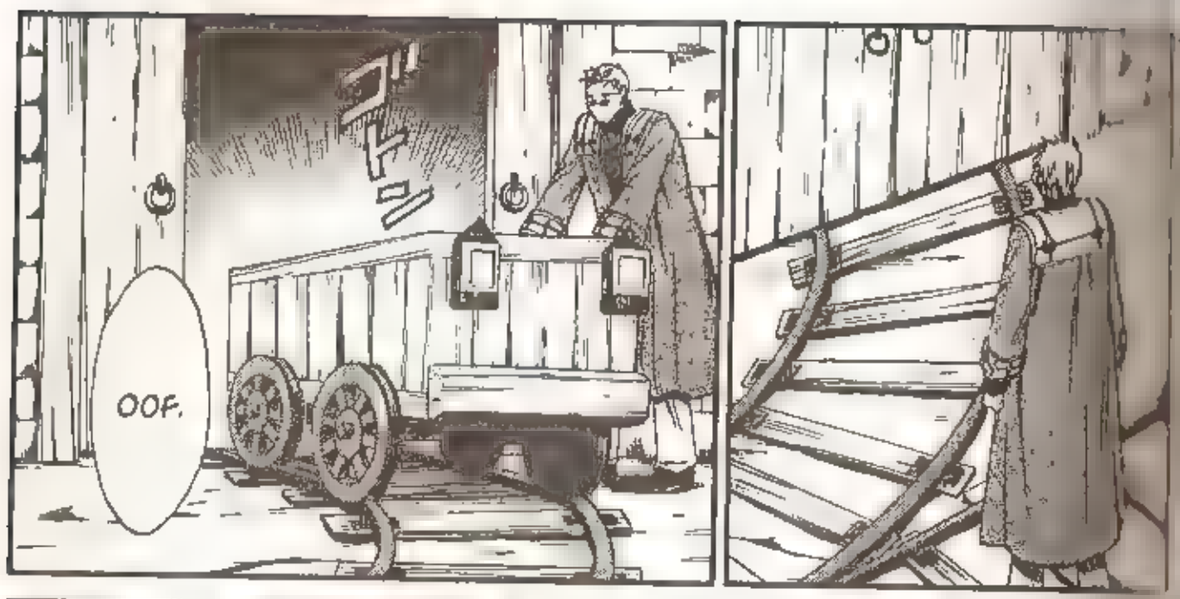
OOPS.

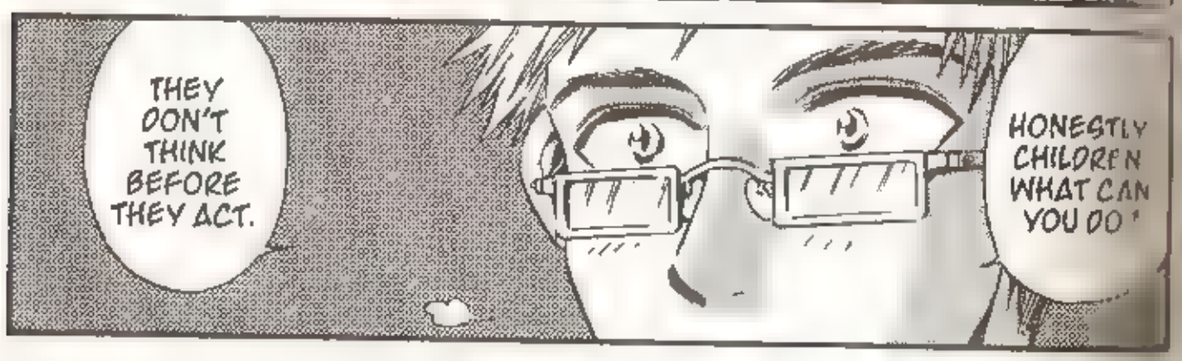
I SHOULD HAVE LOCKED IT ON THIS SIDE, TOO.

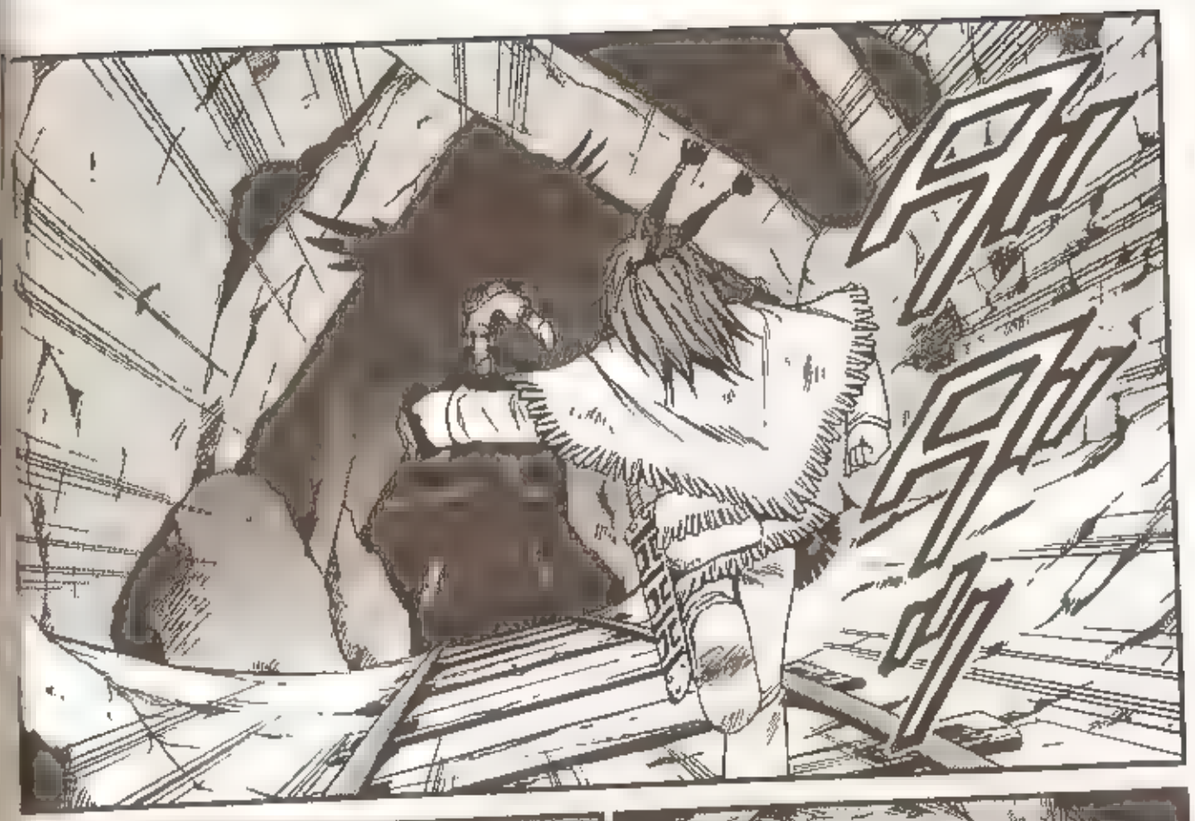
LET ME SEE INSIDE.

THE CART'S GONE!

DID THEY GET IN?!


ゴトン
OOF.


THEY DON'T THINK BEFORE THEY ACT.
HONESTLY CHILDREN WHAT CAN YOU DO?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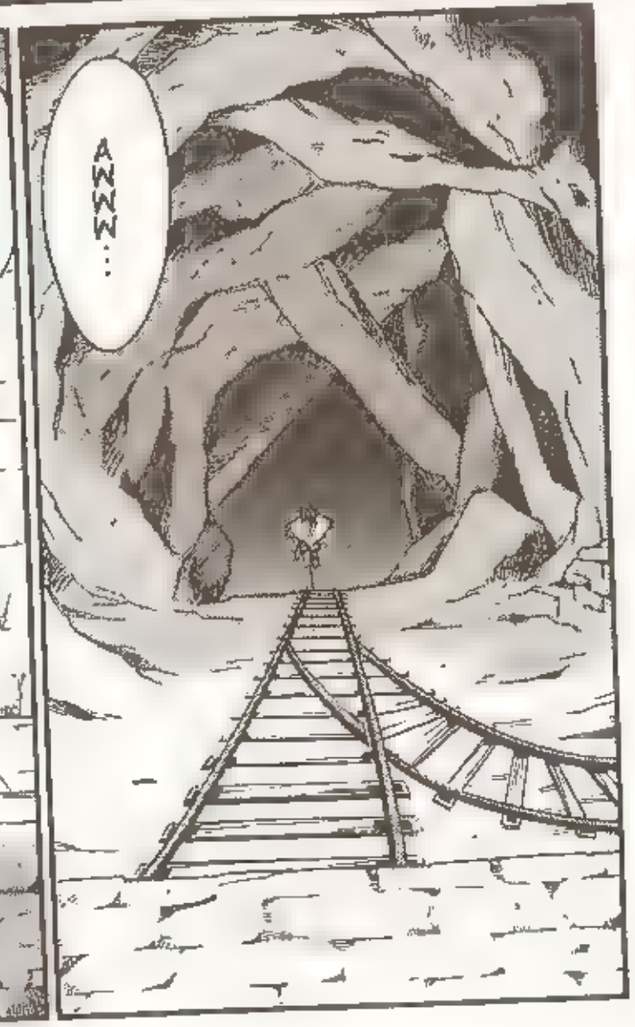
THEY'VE GOT STAMINA, THOSE +ANIMA.
SO THEY GO RUNNING, HMM?


AWWW...

ゴゴゴ…

ゴゴゴ

ゴゴゴ…

ガタン

…

IT...IT STOPPED.

HUSKY! HURRY AND GET OFF!

WE'LL BE IN TROUBLE IF IT MOVES AGAIN!

UGH... BLEH...

HANG IN THERE!

FLOP ポト

THERE'S A DOOR.

I WONDER IF ANYONE'S INSIDE

...?

DUNNO ...

Blehhh

AN ANGEL?!

AN...

CARAMEL CHOCO-LATES!

OH!

IT LOOKS LIKE SOME KIND OF RESEARCH ROOM.

"ANIMA IMPLAN-TATION" ...

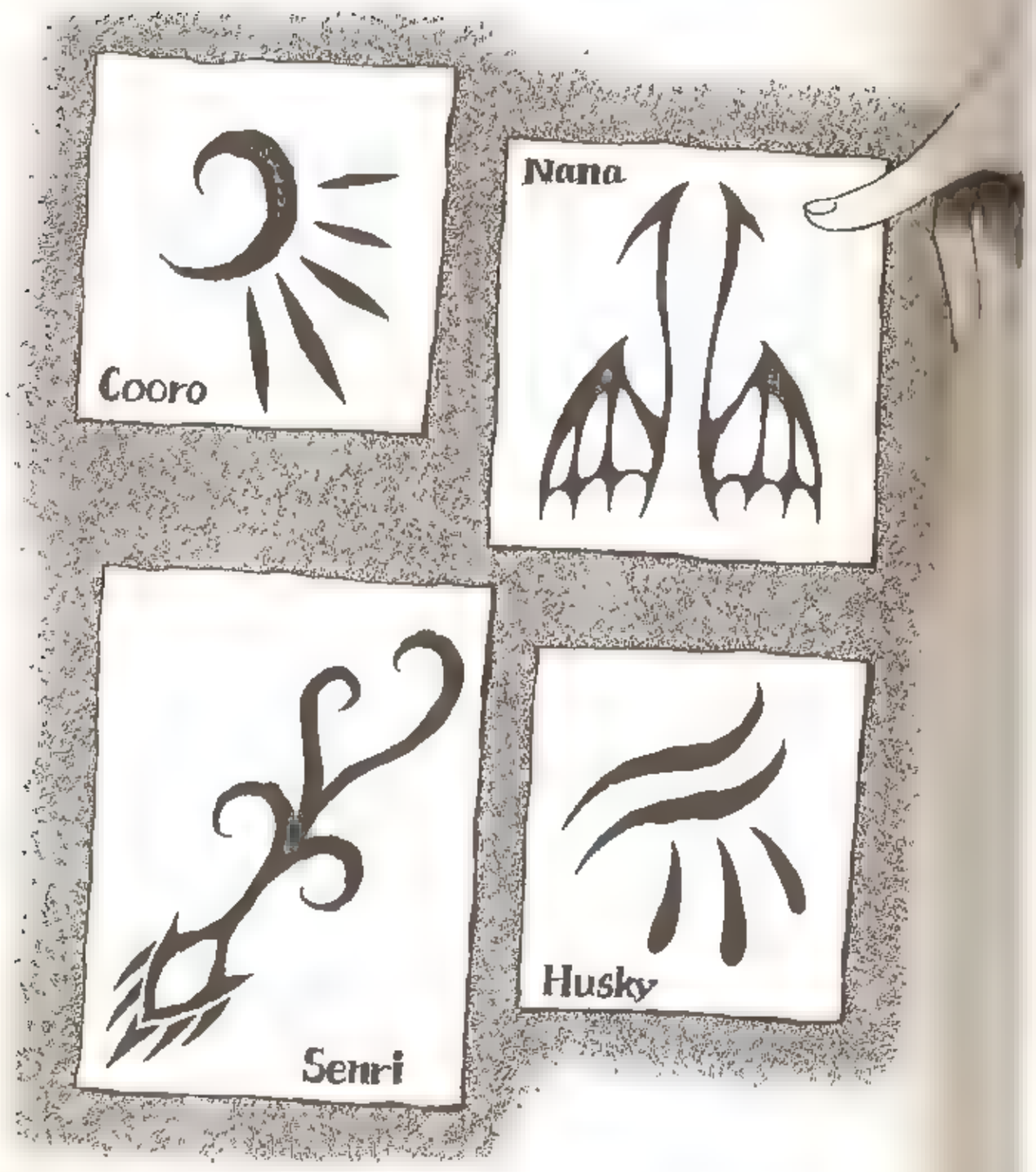
HUH?!

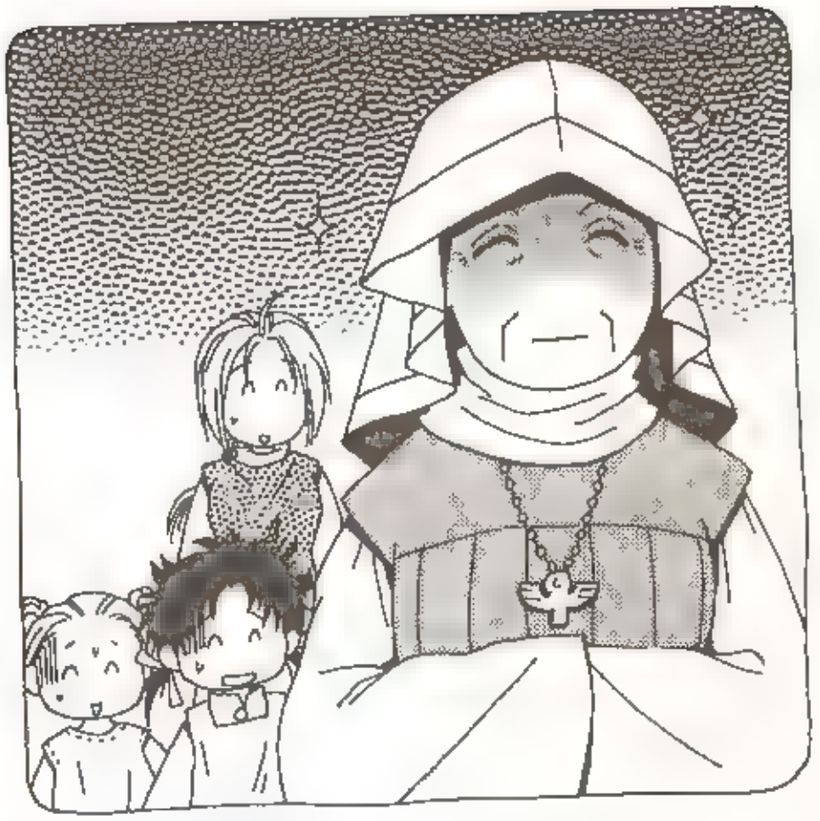
EEEK!!

LOOK! LOOK! OVER THERE!!

THIS PLACE ~

Chapter 53
My Anima





She's hanging tough and won't change her mind.

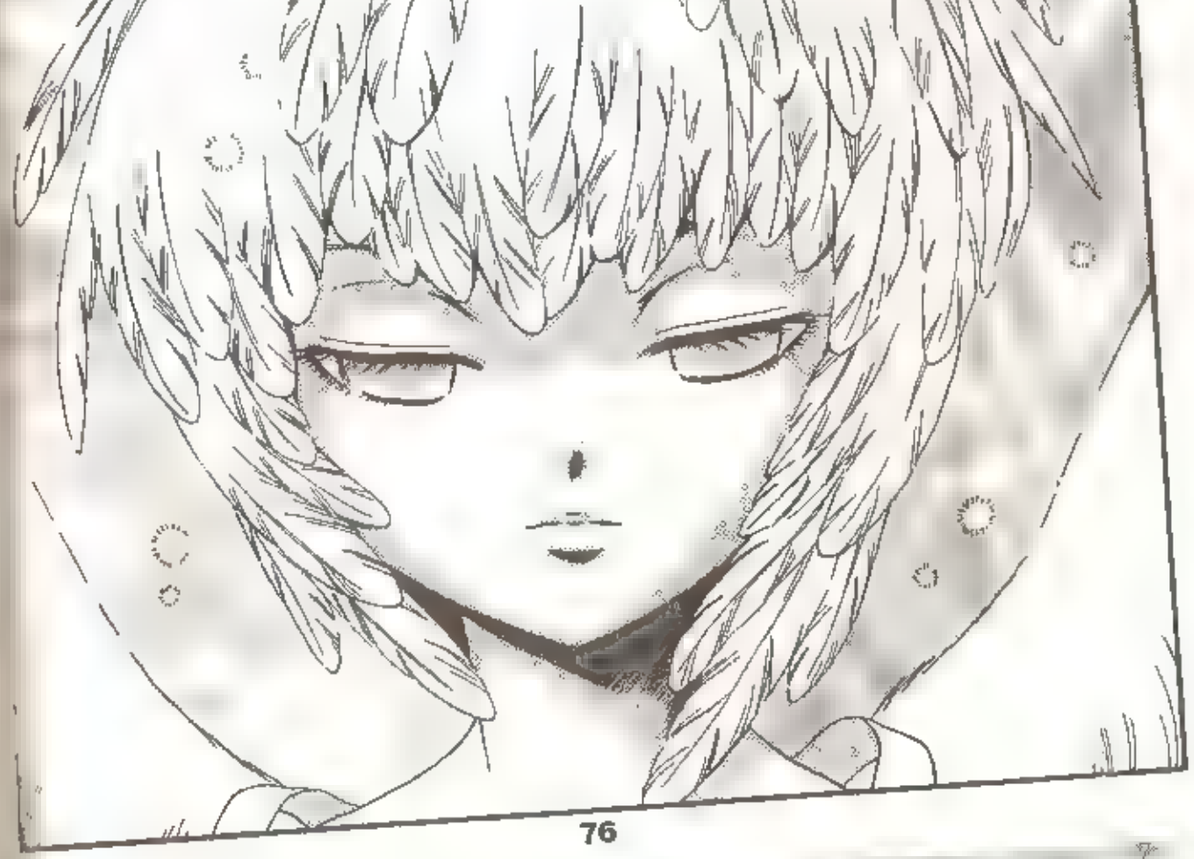
A-A WHITE ANGEL?

IS SHE A REAL ANGEL?

IS SHE A DOLL?

...?

...



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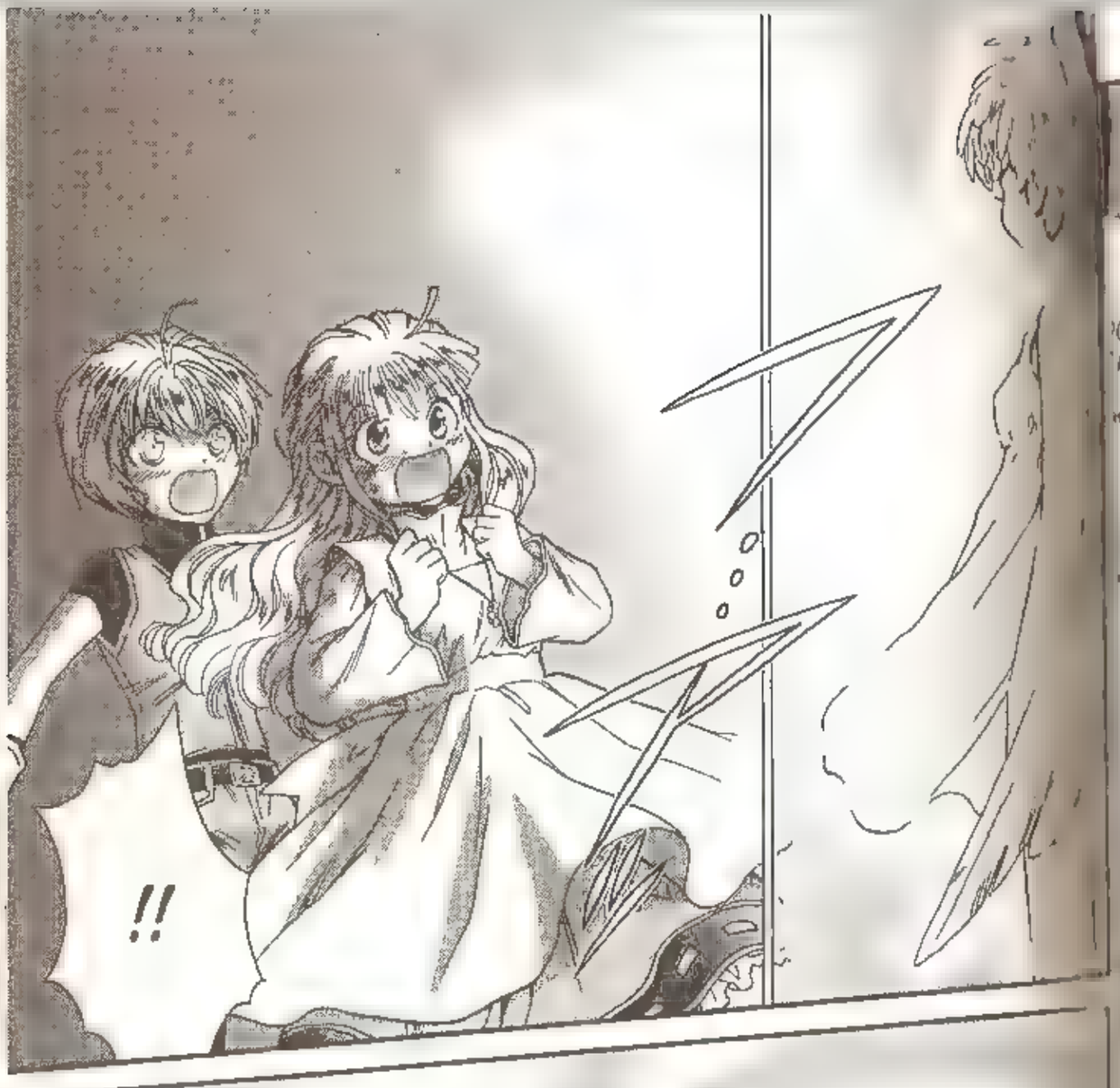


!!

77

IT CAME OUT OF THAT THING.

TH-TH WAS WHITE SHAD FROM LAST NIGH

S-STAY BACK... YOU!

WAAAAH

IT'S FULL OF PLANTS.

WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

SLAM

HUSKY, THIS WAY!

THE WI
SHAI
OUT TH

!

I DON'T LIKE THIS SHADOW!

WHAT IF IT COMES INSIDE ME?!

KEEEEK!

KL KL KL

EEEEEK!

RUSTI!

EEK!

Waaaah!

AH AH AH

NANA?!

BLANCA!

OH!

NANA!

OUT OF THE WAY!

THAT MAN...

SENRI!

C-COORO?

OH.

WHAT THE HECK WAS--?

THERE WE SOME TH WE W IN THA ROOM TOO

ALLOW ME T EXPLAIN

COME WITH ME.

THERE'S ANOTHER TRACK HERE.

THIS ONE LEADS TO ASTAR.

ガタン

UM...

IS BLANCA... THAT GIRL'S NAME?

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

UHH...

Y-YES, SIR!

THAT GIRL IS AN ANGEL.

AN ANGEL +ANIMA, TO BE PRECISE.

WHAT A WEIRD THING TO SAY

WHA ...?

...

ONLY A SMALL PART OF IT IS STILL USABLE.

WE'RE IN A TUNNEL THAT WAS MADE UNDER THE CAPITAL A LONG TIME AGO.

ガタン

CLONG ゴウン
CLONG ゴウン
CLONG ゴウン

WE'RE HERE

THIS IS THE ASTARIAN NATIONAL RESEARCH FACILITY.

WE'RE ALREADY INSIDE ASTAR?!

Around here

WHAA...?!

THAT'S RIGHT.

カチャ

SHE UNDERWENT ANIMA IMPLANTATION SURGERY AT HER OWN REQUEST.

SO YOU MET LYRA.

THEIR BODIES UNCONSCIOUSLY DRAW IN THE ANIMA TO SURVIVE.

BECOMING +ANIMA IS NOT SOMETHING CHILDREN WISH FOR.

...REMOVE AN ANIMA, AND MAKE A +ANIMA INTO A NORMAL HUMAN.

I CAN ALSO USE SURGERY TO..

ドキッ

8

HUH?!

YOU'RE--

AAHH...

IT'S HER.

OH!

MARCA, WOULD YOU MAKE US SOME TEA?

YES, SIR

SO THAT'S WHY I FELT LIKE I'D MET HER BEFORE.

THE LADY THAT GAVE US APPLES.

YOU WORK AT THIS RESEARCH FACILITY?

THERE'S NO REASON TO PROLONG YOUR SUFFER-ING.

THERE'S NO NEED TO WAIT UNTIL YOU'RE AN ADULT THOUGH.

ANIMA O... DISAPP... WHEN THE CHI... REACH... ADULTHO...

IT WOULD SEEM THAT ONCE THE ANIMA'S HELP IS NO LONGER NEEDED, IT LEAVES THE BODY.

THEY CALL OUT FOR HELP...

...AND UNDER GRAVE CIRCUM-STANCES ...

...THE ANIMA RESPOND TO THAT...

AND HEY COME NIMA.

YOU CAN LIVE LIKE NORMAL CHILDREN.

INSTEAD O... DEPENDING ON THE ANIMA...

...WE AT THE RESEARCH FACILITY CAN HELP YOU.

THE ANIMA MARKING IS A SCAR.

BUT...

...I CAN REMOVE IT WITH SURGERY.

OH!

Plug

...

I HEAR YOU'RE GOOD WITH A NEEDLE, NANA.

YES.

IN THAT CASE, WE'LL HELP YOU BECOME AN APPRENTICE TO A GOOD SEAMSTRESS.

...BUT WHAT WOULD YOU DO FOR US?!

Y-YOU SAY THAT...

I COULD BE A SEAMSTRESS?

LIKE A NORMAL GIRL?

IF THERE'S SOMEONE YOU CAN'T BE WITH BECAUSE YOU'RE A +ANIMA...

...YOU MAY BE ABLE TO SEE THEM AGAIN.

AND I WOULDN'T HAVE TO BE AFRAID OF THEM FINDING OUT I'M A +ANIMA?

YOU'RE A KIM-UN-KUL THEY ARE A PEOPLE THAT TAKE PRIDE IN HAVING AN ANIMA

YOU COULD NEVER THROW AWAY YOUR ANIMA.

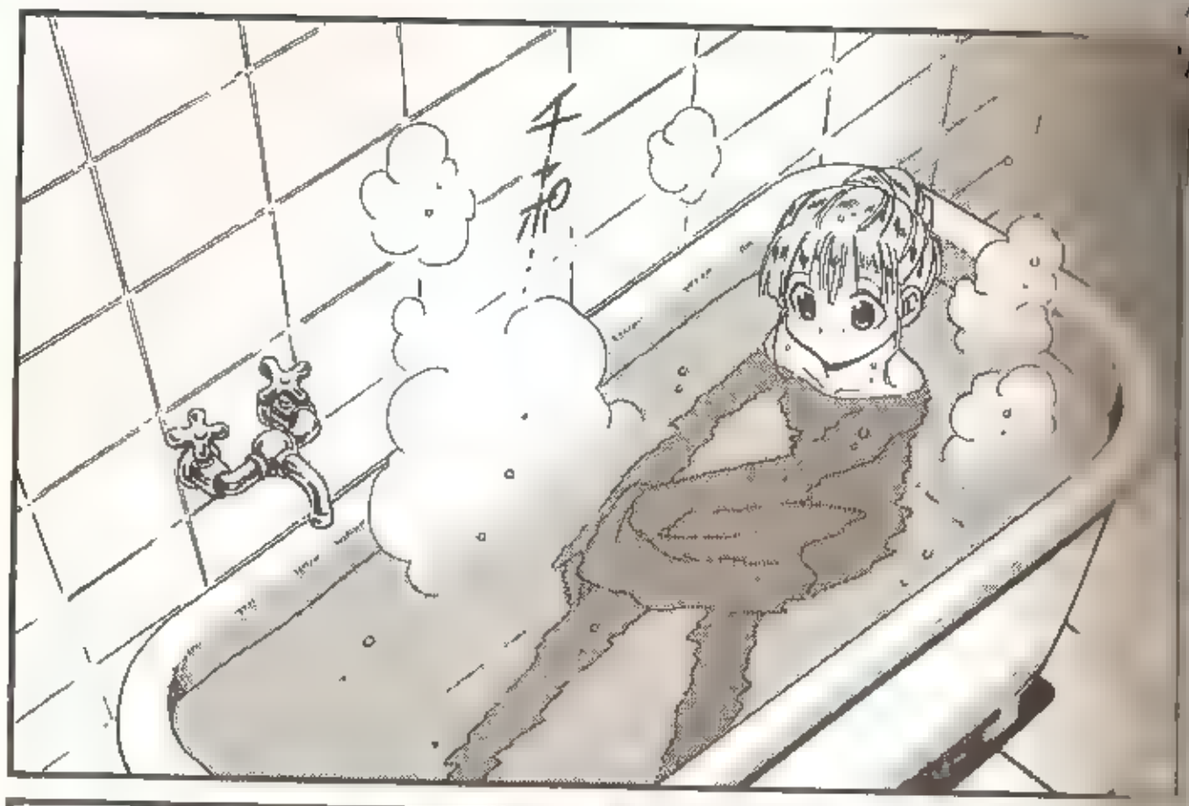
SO I WON'T RECOM-MEND IT FOR YOU.

I CAN DO THE OPERA-TION...

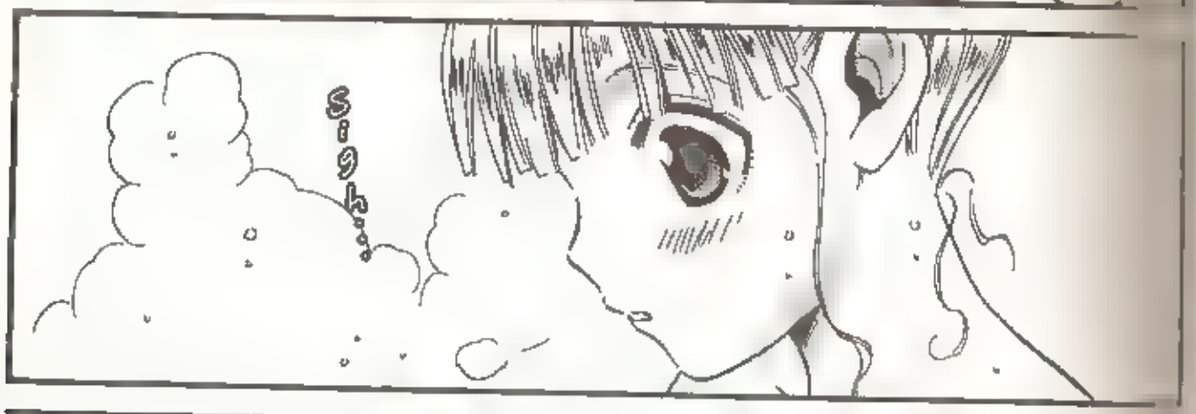
...BUT THE DECISION IS YOURS TO MAKE.

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

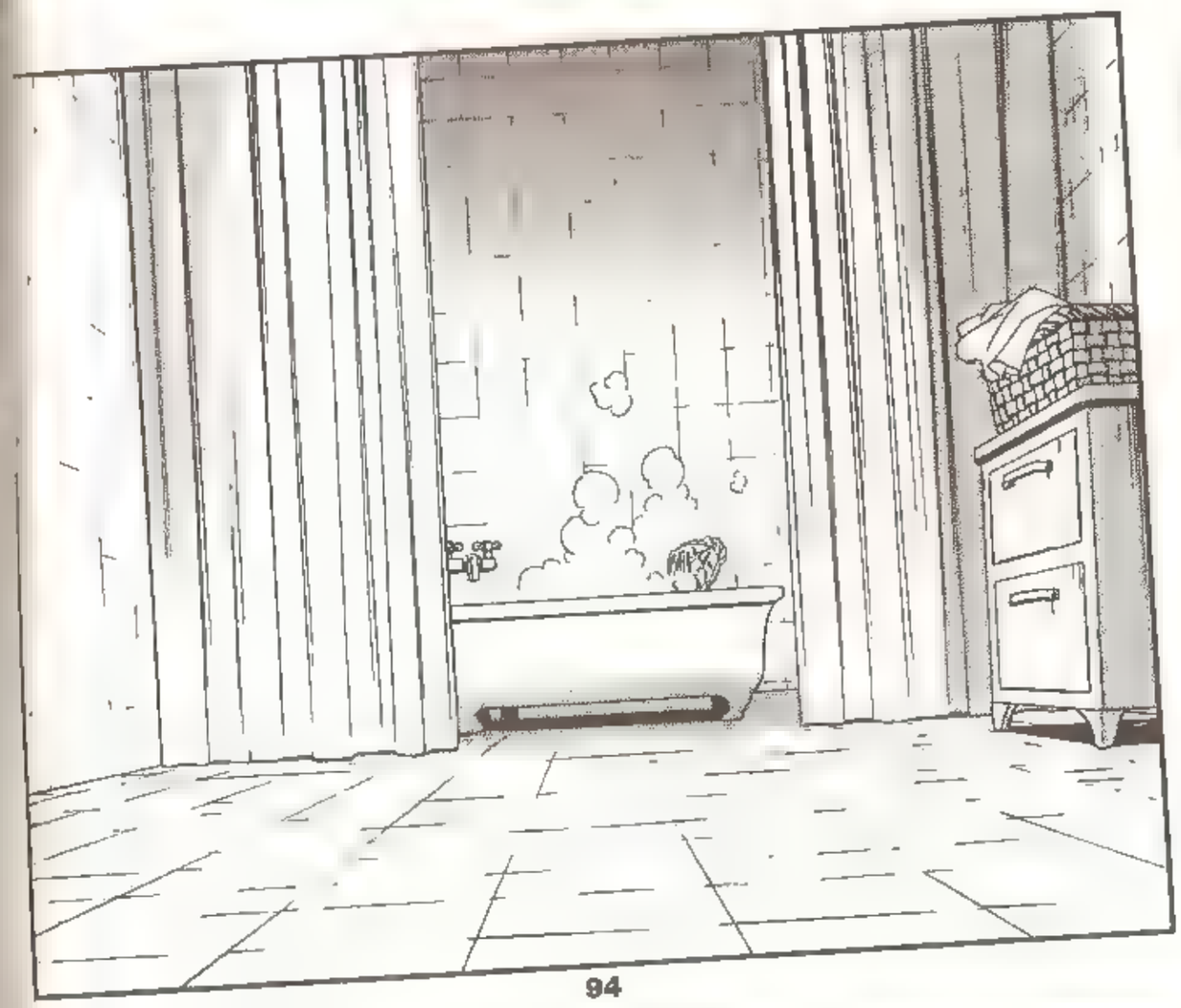
NANA.



YOU SHOULD DO WHAT YOU THINK WILL MAKE YOU HAPPY, NANA.


Sigh...

OH!
Y-YES, MA'AM!
WHEN YOU'RE ALL CLEAN, PUT ON THIS SURGICAL GOWN, OKAY?
HOW'S THE WATER?



HA HA...

It won't hurt

DON'T WORRY. THEY PUT YOU TO SLEEP DURING THE OPERATION.

IS IT HAPPIER...

...NOT TO HAVE AN ANIMA?

I'VE NEVER NOT HAD ONE.

I REALLY WOULDN'T KNOW.

IF YOU'LL COME THIS WAY, I'LL PREPARE THE ANESTHESIA.

YES, MA'AM.

/P

IS SOMETHING THE MATTER?

I WAS THINKING... SINCE IT'S THE LAST TIME...I WANT TO SAY GOODBYE TO MY ANIMA.

UM...

AH.

PA PA

PA

...THIS IS GOODBYE.

BEAUTIFUL BAT WINGS...

...BAT EARS...

...BECAUSE YOU HELPED ME SO MUCH.

STILL, IT'S A LITTLE SAD, I GUESS...

...COORO, OR HUSKY. OR SENRI.

AND IF I DIDN'T HAVE AN ANIMA, I WOULDN'T HAVE MET...

I MEAN, IT'S TRUE, ISN'T IT?

EVEN WITH AN ANIMA, I'M HAPPY.

NO. I'M HAPPY **BECAUSE** I HAVE AN ANIMA.

IF MY ANIMA [illegible] GOING T[illegible] DISAPPE[illegible] WHEN I GROW U[illegible] I'LL WAI[illegible] UNTIL THE[illegible]

I'M SURE IT WON'T BE HARD TO WAIT.

HUSKY!

HUSKYYY!!

DID HE ALREADY HAVE THE SUR-GERY?!

OH NO

WHAT ABOUT HUSKY?!

NANA?

AH...

HUH?!

I'M NOT GONNA HAVE THE SURGERY!

I'M FINE LIKE THIS!

THEY'RE PRO-BABLY IN THE WAITING ROOM.

THEY NEVER WANTED TO REMOVE THEIR ANIMA TO BEGIN WITH.

WHAT ABOUT COOR[illegible] AND SENRI''

STOP YELLING PEOPLE'S NAMES ALL OVER THE PLACE!!

WHAT?!

IF THE FOUR OF US ARE TOGETHER, IT WON'T BE HARD TO WAIT.

THAT'[illegible] RIGHT

I'M STILL IN THE SUR-GICAL GOWN!

WAH!

A wa wah

?

I'M NOT WEARING UNDER-WEAR!

WHAT ABOUT YOU, HUSKY?!

I DIDN'T GO THROUGH WITH THE SURGERY!

HUSKY!!

ME, EI-THER.

I THOUGHT ABOUT IT A LITTLE, AND GAVE IT UP RIGHT AWAY

I'M FINE THE WAY I AM.

GAAH?!

Chapter 54
Crystal

That was embarrassing.

...AND OUR VALUABLE PARTNERS...

...OUR FOUR ANIMA.

WE TRAVELED TOGETHER: THE FOUR OF US...

I WONDER IF HUSKY THINKS THE SAME.

IT WOULD BE NICE IF HE DID.

?

WE'RE BACK!

JUST YOU, SENRI?

HUH?

WHAT IS THIS...BAD FEELING?

...

WHERE'S COORO?

EH?

YOU MEAN FLY?

...WITH THAT MAN.

HE LEFT

...

WHERE DID THEY GO, SENRI?!

LET'S GO FIN' COORO'

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, SENRI.

AARGH ...

...

Glance

FLY'S VOICE!

IT'S OKAY. I CAN HEAR THEM!

THAT WAY!

YOUR ANIMA...

...SURE IS HANDY.

YEAH, WELL ...

COORO WAS TAKEN TO THE RESEARCH FACILITY FROM THE CHURCH.

THAT'S HOW HE KNOWS FLY.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEIR RELATIONSHIP IS .IKE. IS THAT WHY I'M SO UNEASY?

I FEEL WEIRD

MY HEART IS POUNDING.

...WHEN WE MET FLY, COORO'S SMILE DISAPPEARED.

COME TO THINK OF IT...

...

I REALLY AM GLAD...

...YOU CAME BACK SAFELY, COORO.

THIS WAY.

BUT I NEVER GOT ANY WORD FROM YOU.

THERE!

I HEARD NEWS OF YOU FROM TOWNS HERE AND THERE.

...TO BRING THEM HERE?

DIDN'T I TELL YOU, IF YOU FOUND ANY +ANIMA...

BUT YOU WENT OFF ON YOUR OWN AS FAR AS SAILAND.

YOU CAN SENSE AN ANIMA +I PRESENT

THAT'S WHY I GAVE YOU THE JOB OF FINDING +ANIMA, COORO.

I FORGOT.

I'M SORRY.

AH!

I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR OTHER +ANIMA.

COME WITH ME!

WE GAVE UP ON THE SUR-GERY!

WE DON'T WANT TO THROW AWAY OUR ANIMA!

I WAS ABOUT TO HEAD OVER THERE MYSELF.

WEREN'T YOU GETTING READY FOR SURGERY?

IS THAT...

...WHAT HE MEANT?

COORO! WHAT IS HE SAYING?!

IT'S TRUE THAT WE BECAME +ANIMA BECAUSE BAD THINGS HAPPENED TO US, LIKE YOU SAID

BUT WE THINK IT'S WRONG TO JUST TAKE AWAY THE ANIMA THAT HELPED US LIKE THAT.

DOES THIS MEAN THAT YOU...

...MADE FRIENDS WITH US U-UNDER FLY'S ORDERS?!

...WE WON'T WASTE THE ANIMA THAT WE TAKE FROM YOU.

I'LL IMPLANT IT INTO SOME-ONE WHO WANTS IT.

BUT...

SHE HAS NO WILL OF HER OWN.

ALL SHE HAS IS HER UNDEFILED BODY.

HUH?

YOU AII SEEM I WANT KNOW, I'LL T YOU

SHE'S AN ARTIFICIAL LIFE FORM.

...SLEEPING UNDERNEATH THE CAPITAL.

MY TEACHER, AARON NEWT, DISCOVER HER...

LIKE LYRA?

I THINK THAT'S WRONG, TOO!

AH!

...YOU MADE HER A +ANIMA BY IMPLANTING A SWAN OR SOME OTHER ANIMA INTO HER, DIDN'T YOU?

THE ANGEL ANIMA OR WHATEVER IN THAT UNDER-GROUND ROOM...

DID SHE ASK YOU TO DO THAT?!

WHY?!

We put makeup on her so the anima markings wouldn't stand out

IF ANGELS ARE CLOSER TO GOD THAN MAN IS...

...THEN THEY OUGHT TO HAVE ALL THE ABILITIES FOUND ON EARTH, RIGHT?

SO AARON AND I IMPLANTED ALL SORTS OF ANIMA INTO HER.

BUT [illegible] WAS N[illegible] COMI[illegible]

SO SHE IS A DOLL?

ARTIFICIAL?

A DOLL MADE OF [illegible]RGANIC COM-[illegible]OUNDS.

WELL, YES.

AND SHE'S AN ANGEL--A MEDIATOR BETWEEN GOD AND MAN...

SHE'S AN ARTIFICIAL LIFE FORM

SHE'S THE CRYSTALLIZATION OF THE DREAMS OF PAST RESEARCHERS.

THE REALIZATION OF MANKIND'S ANCIENT DREAM OF FLIGHT.

YOU'RE DIFFERENT FROM US, COORO.

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW HARD IT IS AND HOW GRATEFUL WE ARE TO HAVE ANIMA.

FROM THE BEGINNING YOU CAME WITH US AND YOU COULDN'T STEAL OUR ANIMA, DIDN'T YOU COORO?

WHAT IS THIS GUY THINKING?

MAKE AN ANGEL BY USING ANIMA?

...

WE USE THE ANIMA WE TAKE FOR THAT, TOO.

DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

COORO ...

!

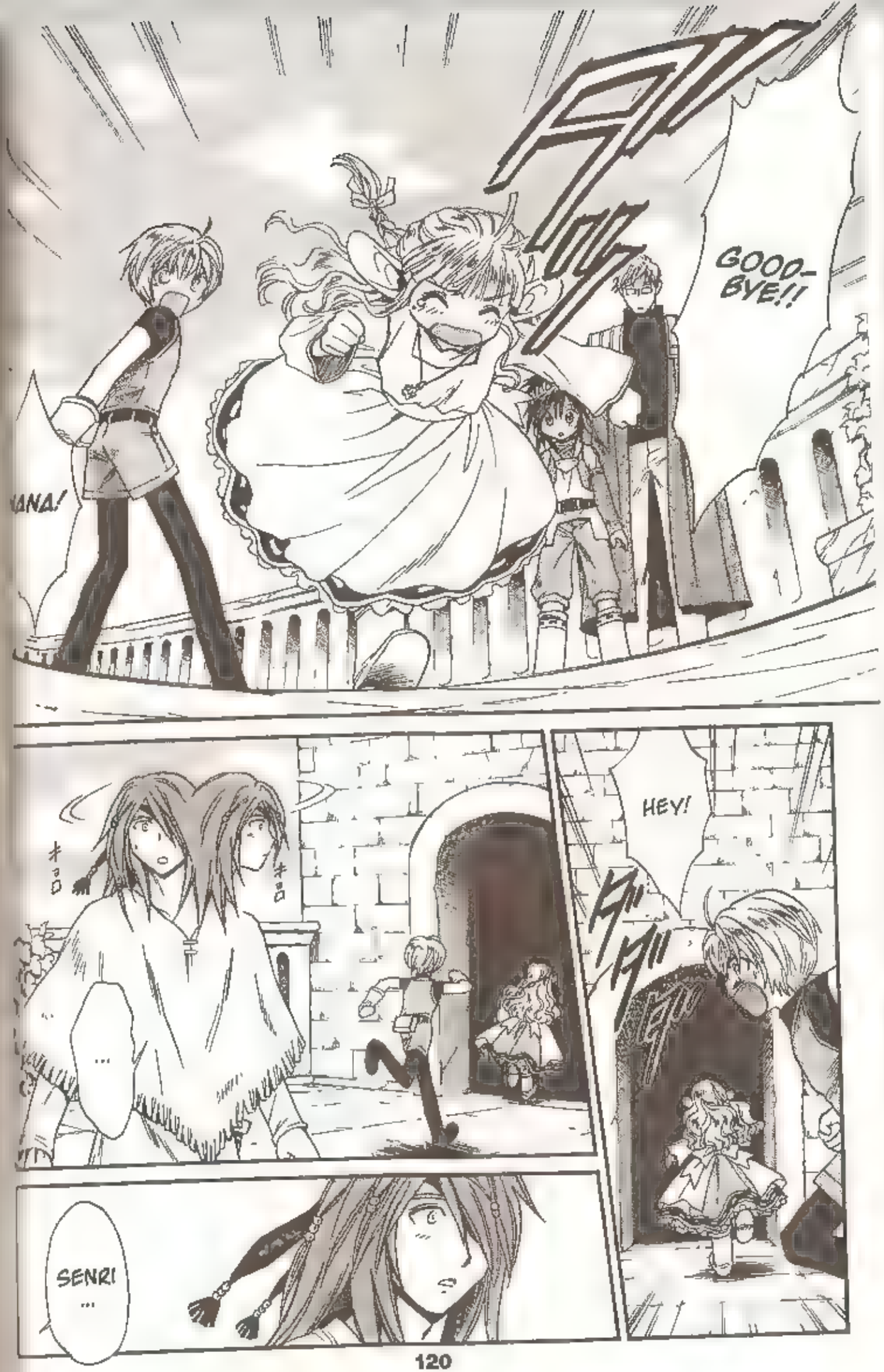
HUH?

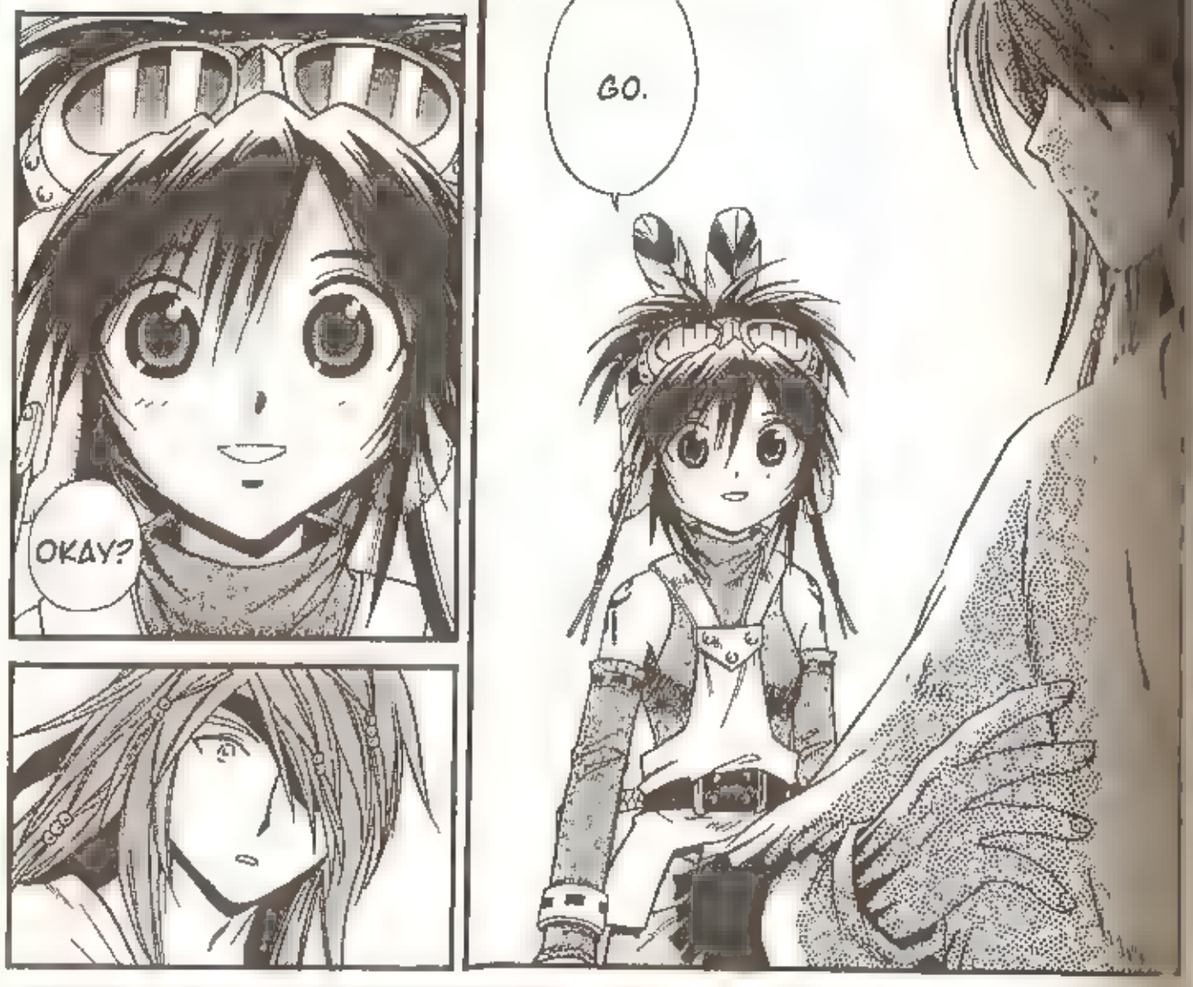
HMM?

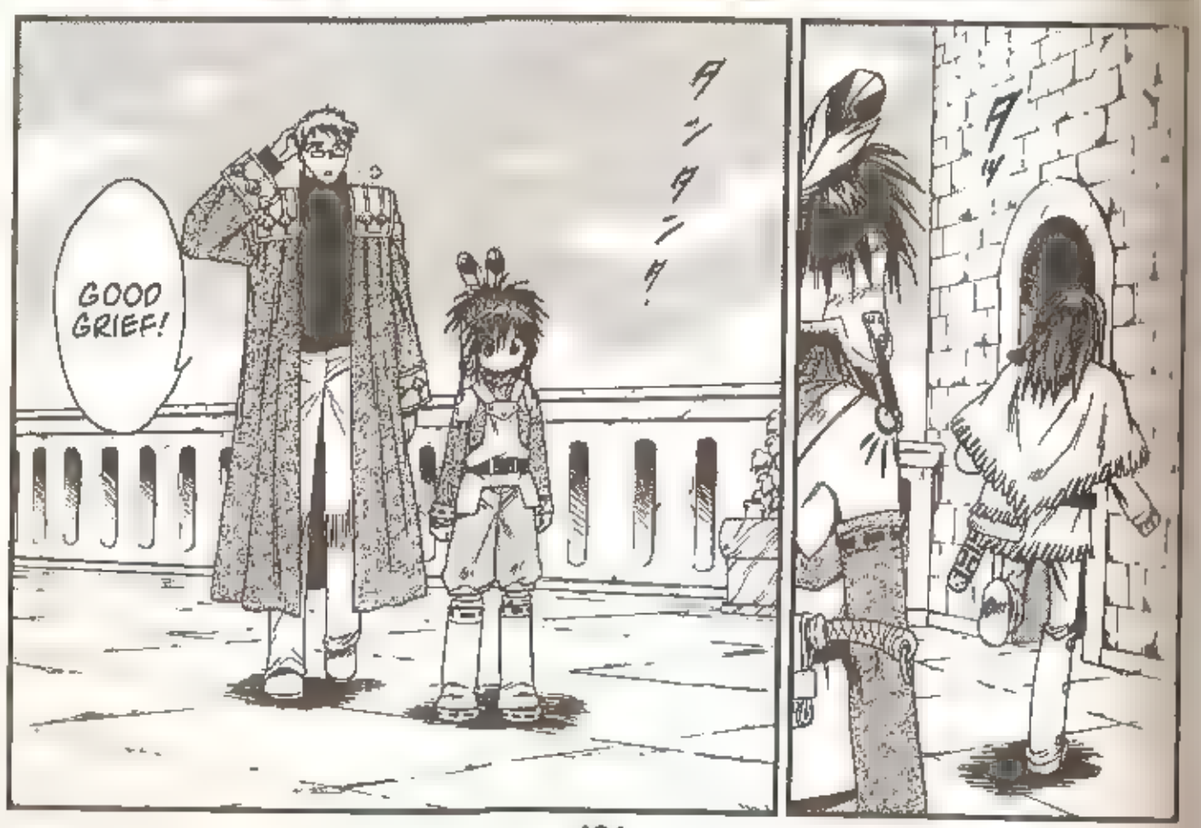
YOU, TOO?

...SO WE THOUGHT YOU WERE OUR FRIEND.

YOU'RE A +ANIMA LIKE WE ARE...


GOOD-BYE!!
HEY!
SENRI ...


GO.
OKAY?


GOOD GRIEF!

DO YOU WANT TO GO AFTER THEM?

NO.

SO WE LET TWO ANIMA GET AWAY.

I GUESS IT CAN'T BE HELPED.

IF WE TRY TO FORCE AN ANIMA OUT OF SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T WANT TO LET IT GO, IT'LL DIE, AFTER ALL.

BUT... WELL...

SINCE YOU'VE COME BACK TO US, COORO, WE'LL CALL IT EVEN.

IT'S ...JUST LIKE NANA SAID.

I DID PROMISE YOU, FLY.

I SEE.

YOU WEAR THIS ONE, SENRI!!

Take that!!

...

カポっ

MMPH?!

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

IT TE?

ふぅ

HEY, NANA!

THIS IS NO TIME FOR CLOTHES!!

OH! THAT ONE'S CUTE, TOO!

WH-WHO CARES?

I'D LIKE TO TRY THIS ON, PLEASE!

TEE HEE! ♡

...

NOW THEN, NOW THEN, NEXT ...♪

NOW THEN

♪A-wa-wah!✧

I REALLY WANT YOU TO WEAR THESE!

WE'RE IN THE ROYAL CAPITAL, ASTAR WE NEED SOME NEW CLOTHES!

R-REALLY.

RELAX. I'M JUST PLAYING WITH YOU!

<3 4

Whew.

I'M SO ANGRY AND FRUSTRATED ...

...AND SAD!

あぁ

I MEAN ...!

CHOMP

CHOMP

Hic!

Hic!

CHOMP

CHOMP

ぱくぱく

CHOMP

...NOT SERIOUS ABOUT SAYING GOODBYE TO COORO LIKE THIS, ARE YOU?

Gasp

YOU'RE ..

SATIS-FIED?

Whew!

Chm...

Chon,

Chomp

Chomp

どーん

ぱくぱく

ぱくぱく

DRIP

...

I'M NOT WASTING MONEY.

IF YOU KEEP WASTING MONEY LIKE THIS, HOW ARE WE GONNA LIVE?!

NANA! CUT IT OUT ALREADY!!

EH?
OH... YEAH.
COORO ...
IS HE THE ONE THAT TOLD YOU TO GO AWAY?
IF I HADN'T TOLD HIM TO...
...HE WOULDN'T HAVE GONE AFTER SHADOW, NO MATTER HOW MUCH HE WANTED TO.
YEAH!
COORO ...
...IT MEANS HE WANTED TO SAY GOODBYE.
SO DON'T THINK THAT JUST BECAUSE HE DIDN'T STOP US..
...?
BECAUSE YOU GOT MAD, NANA...
...IT'S BECAUSE YOU SAID "GOODBYE" THAT HE DIDN'T STOP US.
IT'S COORO, YOU KNOW? IT'S LIKE, HE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE PUTTING ON AN ACT, BUT HE IS.
SO HE WON'T PUT UP A DANG FIGHT.
HE TRIES TO RESPECT PEOPLE'S FREE WILL.
...IT'S HAPPENED BEFORE, REMEMBER?
IF HUSKY SAYS HE DOESN'T WANT TO BE WITH US, THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO.
THAT'S HIS CHOICE TO MAKE.
SO YOU JUST LEFT HIM?
ISN'T THAT A LITTLE HARSH?
AH ...

THE TRUTH IS...

...I DIDN'T WANT TO SAY GOODBYE, EITHER.

DON'T YOU THINK...

...HE WAS TRYING TO AVOID RUNNING INTO FLY?

HE WASN'T THE ONE WHO SUGGESTED GOING TO THE CHURCH, EITHER.

DON'T YOU THINK HE HAS SOME KIND OF REASON?

HE DOESN'T *WANT* TO BE AT THE RESEARCH FACILITY.

...AND THAT'S WHY HE CAN'T LEAVE THE RESEARCH FACILITY.

MAYBE C-COORO REALLY IS A MAN MADE +ANIMA

COORO WAS ALWAYS SMILING HAPPILY.

OF COURSE NOT!

SO WE SMILED, TOO.

THIS IS COORO! THE ONE THAT TRAVELED WITH US ALL THAT TIME!!

THEN LET'S GO GET COORO!

HE'LL TAKE HIM WITH IS EVEN IF E SAYS HE DOESN'T WANT TO COME!

ALL RIGHT!

WHAT?! YOU GOT A PROBLEM WITH IT?!

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT. I...

BUT I'M SURE COORO WON'T SAY HE DOESN'T WANT TO COME.

I WOULD LIKE TO SEE FLY.

OH GOOD, HE DOESN'T REMEMBER ME.

EXCUSE ME.

MR. FLY IS OUT RIGHT NOW.

UH...

WHERE DID HE GO?!

DUNNO.

THAT IDIOT.

COORO.

MAY I SEE YOUR WINGS?

SUCH LOVELY WINGS

NO OTHER ANIMA IS THIS BEAUTIFUL AND PURE.

I WILL BE TAKING THEM.

YOU DID PRO-MISE.

YEAH.

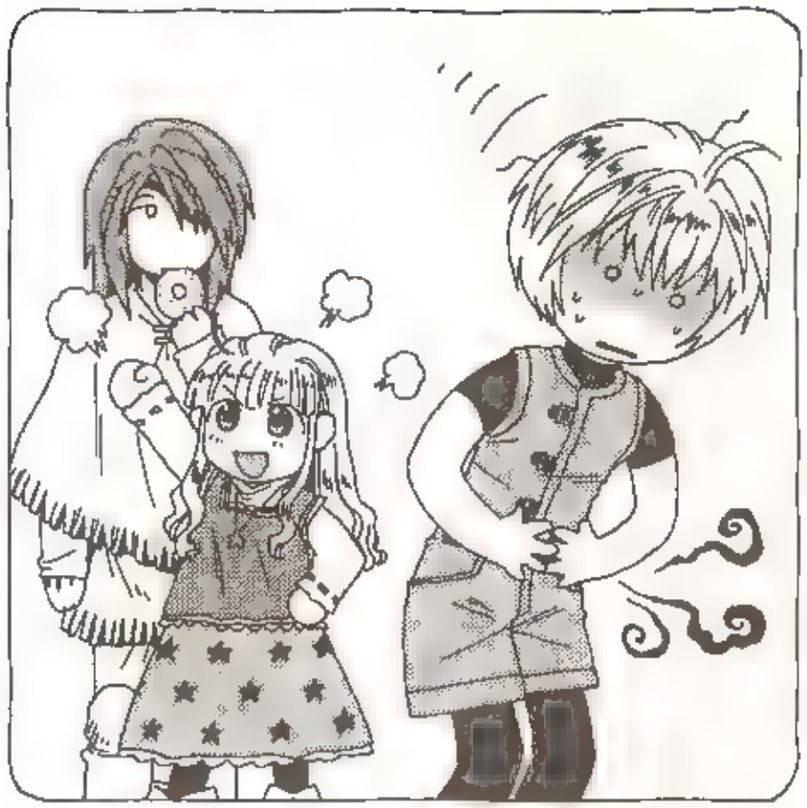
TELL HIM THAT FOR ME.

DON'T DO ANYTHING CARELESS INVOLVING +ANIMA FOR A WHILE.

GASP!

HUH?

Chapter 55
Goodbye



I've got a terrible stomachache.

MY ANGEL HAS FINALLY COME BACK TO ME.

I'LL NEVER LET HIM GO.

SO THEY DID COME BACK.

IT'S A GOOD THING I WAS PREPARED.

PLEASE LET US IN!

PLEASE!

WAIT! AAHH!

I STILL CAN'T!

BUT WE WERE IN THERE JUST A LITTLE WHILE AGO!

I CANNOT LET OUTSIDERS IN WITHOUT A LETTER OF INTRODUCTION.

I CAN'T.

WE DON'T WANT TO BE SO PERSISTENT THAT SHE'LL REPORT US TO THE POLICE.

GIVE IT UP, NANA.

YOU ARE A MAN-MADE +ANIMA.

YOU DON'T HAVE A FATHER OR A MOTHER, COORO.

AARON MADE YOU AND HAD THEM RAISE YOU AT THE CHURCH.

AM I...

...A MAN-MADE +ANIMA?

...

YOU'VE NEVER ASKED ANYTHING LIKE THAT BEFORE.

WHAT'S WRONG?

"YOU'RE DIFFERENT FROM US, COORO."

"YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW HARD IT IS AND HOW GRATEFUL WE ARE TO HAVE ANIMA."

I...NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT IT BEFORE, EITHER.

BUT...

...IT'S KIND OF BEEN BOTH-ERING ME.

WELL, IT DOESN'T MATTER. YOU DID COME BACK.

DRINK THIS.

BUT YOU FORGOT ON PURPOSE, DIDN'T YOU?

...

YOU SAID THAT YOU FORGOT TO COME BACK TO THE RESEARCH FACILITY.

WELL ...

I GUESS IT WON'T DO ANY GOOD TO THINK ABOUT THAT NOW.

THEY ALL LEFT...

...AND I PROMISED FLY.

HUSKY...

SENRI...

...ANA...

WHILE THE FOUR OF US TRAVELL...

...SOMETHING CHANGED.

BUT...

THAT'S WHY I MADE THAT PROMISE TO FLY AND SET OUT TO FIND +ANIMA.

I NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT MY ANIMA THAT MUCH BEFORE...

...BECAUSE I'VE HAD IT SINCE I WAS BORN.

WHY DID WE COME INTO THIS FOREST?!

...

SHUT UP! I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE ALL RIGHT!

HEY, IT'S GETTING DARK ALREADY.

AREN'T WE IN KILTER YET?

NO, WE'RE NOT EVEN HALFWAY THERE.

カサカサ

カサカサ

THAT ANIMA OF YOURS...

WHEN YOU'RE A LITTLE BIGGER...

...WILL YOU GIVE IT TO ME?

HMM? OKAY.

WHAT'S UP, SENRI?

OH.

What do you mean by that?

YEAH. WE'RE NOT GETTING TO KILTER ANYTIME SOON ANYWAY.

It has a roof.

SLEEPING THERE WOULD BE MUCH BETTER THAN CAMPING OUT!

YAAAY

You can't come in!

BUT SHE WAS CHASED AWAY BY A +ANIMA GUARD.

Eeeek

...NANA FLEW UP AND TRIED TO GO OVER THE STONE WALL.

Rope→

AFTER THEY TURNED US AWAY FROM THE DOOR OF THE RESEARCH FACILITY...

THAT'S A HUGE DETOUR!

...WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO USE THE UNDER-GROUND TUNNEL FROM KILTER.

I GUESS IF WE WANT TO SNEAK INTO THE RE-SEARCH FACILITY ...

IF WE FOLLOW THIS MAP AND CUT THROUGH THE FOREST.

CAN WE GET TO KILTER BEFORE THE SUN GOES DOWN?

ALONG THE WAY...

DON'T CRY!

WAAAH! NOOOO!

...WE GOT LOST.

FROM ASTAR TO KILTER, IT'S THREE HOURS BY CARRIAGE, HALF A DAY ON FOOT.

Kilter

Astar

?!

IS THIS A BUILDING?

IT'S PROBABLY AN ANCIENT RUIN.

BUT...

SOMEONE'S BEEN HERE RECENTLY?

WELL...

...THE STAIRWAY IS CLEAN

AND THE METAL FIXINGS ON THE DOOR AREN'T RUSTED.

IT'S NOT IMPOSSIBLE.

WE DID WALK STRAIGHT FROM ASTAR TOWARD KILTER.

YEAH.

THIS SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO KEEP OUT THE NIGHT WIND.

AND STAYING IN THE FOREST WOULD BE HARD FOR NANA.

I'm glad we found a good place

Hurry!

Whew

!

BGB

HUH?

Rattle

Rattle

...

A DOOR?

THE WHITE ANGEL...

...IS HERE TOO, RIGHT?

WE CAN USE THE UNDER-GROUND TUNNEL AND GET TO ASTAR FROM HERE.

YAY, THANK GOOD-NESS! ♡

HUH?

...RELEASE IT?

SHOULD WE..

IF WE LET IT GO, THAT FLY WILL SURE BE DISAPPOINTED.

THE "WHITE ANGEL" IS THE CRYS-TALLIZATION OF FLY'S AND THE OTHER RE-SEARCHERS' DREAMS, RIGHT?

IS THAT A COM-PLI-MENT?

Heh heh heh.

Good!

THAT'S SUPER MEAN!

NICE, HUSKY!

OH!

I THOUGHT SO.

THE ONE ON THE UN-DERGROUND ROAD BETWEEN KILTER AND ASTAR?!

IS THIS THAT UNDER-GROUND ROOM?!

IT'S GONE!

Step

...I WOULDN'T LIKE TO BE LOCKED UP, SO...

EVEN IF SHE IS A MAN-MADE +ANIMA...

I THINK WE SHOULD.

I'M SURE ... ...IT WAS THIS WAY.

!

YOUR MAJESTY

YOU MEAN FLY?

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF LORD GREENA AIGHT'S ACTIONS?

LORD NUOREF...

THEY MAY BE USEFUL, BUT THERE ARE THOSE WHO FEEL IT IS DANGEROUS TO EMPLOY SUCH HETEROGENOUS CREATURES.

BUT RECENTLY HE IS TAMING +ANIMA AND PLACING THEM IN THE MILITARY.

I'VE WATCHED MY BROTHER'S SON SINCE HE WAS A CHILD

HE NEVER CHANGES.

THAT'S WHY WE ASSIGN THEM ALL TO SEPARATE SQUADRONS AND DON'T HAVE ANY PURELY +ANIMA REGIMENTS.

I MYSELF HAVE NO INTENTION OF ALLOWING +ANIMA TO CONTROL ASTARIA!

HE'S ALWAYS READING BOOKS OR CLOSED UP IN A RESEARCH ROOM.

HE HAS NO INTEREST IN POLITICS OR MARTIAL ARTS.

KEEEK!

Step

Eh...

Ahh!

I'M NOT AS YOUNG AS I USED TO BE PLEASE STOP.

OH, COME NOW.

IT'S NOT AS IF FLY HASN'T THOUGHT ABOUT THAT.

&

THERE ARE UNFAVOR-ABLE RU-MORS GOING AROUND ABOUT LORD GREENA AIGHT.

I SEE.

FLY...

I HOPE HE HAS.

#.

DON'T TAKE YOUR EYES OFF HIM.

YES, SIR.

I SEE.

LORD GREENA AIGHT WENT INTO THE RE-SEARCH FACILITY AND HAS YET TO COME OUT.

くいびり

I CAN'T SPEAK VERY WELL WITHOUT IT.

SIGH ...

I FINALLY FINISHED MAKING THIS MEDICINE IT WOJLD BE TERRIBLE IF THE BOTTLE BROKE.

?!

THAT'S RIGHT.

IT WAS AN ANIMA IMPLANTATION EXPERIMENT.

DON'T TELL ME YOU... LOOK LIKE THAT BECAUSE --

YOU R SEAR'H +ANIMA

I AM AARON NEWT.

I WAS ONCE A RESEARCHER AT THE ASTARIAN NATIONAL RESEARCH FACILITY.

Y- YOU'RE ...

...HU- MAN?

FLY HAS TAKEN OVER MY RESEARCH, BUT--

IT'S HARD TO CALL MY IMPLANTATION A SUCCESS

BECAUSE OF THIS FORM, I RETIRED FROM THE NATIONAL RESEARCH FACILITY AND LIVE HERE.

...NEWT?

AARON ...

...YOU MADE COORO?!

COORO?

OH!

TH- THEN ...

I'VE KNOWN HIM SINCE HE WAS A CHILD.

A FELLOW RESEARCHER WHO STUDIED +ANIMA WITH ME.

FLY IS MY APPRENTICE.

UMM, WELL, I THINK FLY WAS SAYING SOMETHING--

WHERE HAVE I HEARD THAT NAME BEFORE?

R-R-REALLY?

WHAAAAT?!

I'VE NEVER SEEN A +ANIMA LIKE HIM.

HE WAS *BORN* A +ANIMA.

I'M SAYING THIS AS THE ONE WHO SAW THE MOMENT COORO BECAME A +ANIMA, SO THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.

COORO IS WITH FLY RIGHT NOW, AND WE WANT TO GET HIM BACK.

WE WANT TO KNOW EVERY LITTLE THING WE CAN ABOUT COORO!

TELL US ABOUT COORO!

IT'S SO CRUEL!

WHY WOULD YOU DO SUCH A THING?

WE CAN'T FORGIVE YOU FOR TOYING WITH US AND OUR FEELINGS LIKE THAT!!

WE DON'T CARE WHY YOU DID IT!

I--

W-WAIT A MOMENT!

I DIDN'T MAKE COORO.

COORO IS A GENUINE +ANIMA!

HUH?

Huff
Huff

BUT THERE'S NO WAY FLY WOULD BE AWAKE THIS EARLY IN THE MORNING.

Out running

I WAS SO WORRIED ABOUT HIM I ENDED UP AT THE RESEARCH FACILITY

FLY?!

LONG AGO, I WAS DOING FIELD WORK, RESEARCHING +ANIMA.

I ARRIVED IN A SMALL VILLAGE CALLED LILT.

LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT THAT DAY.

THAT'S WHERE I MET COORO.

Heh.

WHERE'VE YOU BEEN?!

HEY, FLY!

I'VE BEEN WORRIED!

I'M JUST SO HAPPY I COULON'T CONTAIN MYSELF.

COME BY LATER AND I'LL SHOW YOU SOMETHING WONDERFUL.

I WANT YOU... I WANT EVERYONE TO SEE IT.

WHAT'S WITH YOU? WHAT'S GOING ON?

IT'S WEIRD FOR YOU TO BE UP THIS EARLY.

Can we do something about this distance?

DON'T DO ANYTHING STUPID!

GOOD MORNING, COORO!

I BROUGHT YOUR BREAK-FAST

WHEN YOU'RE DONE 'ATING, I'LL 'LEAN YOU OFF AND CHANGE YOUR BANDAG--

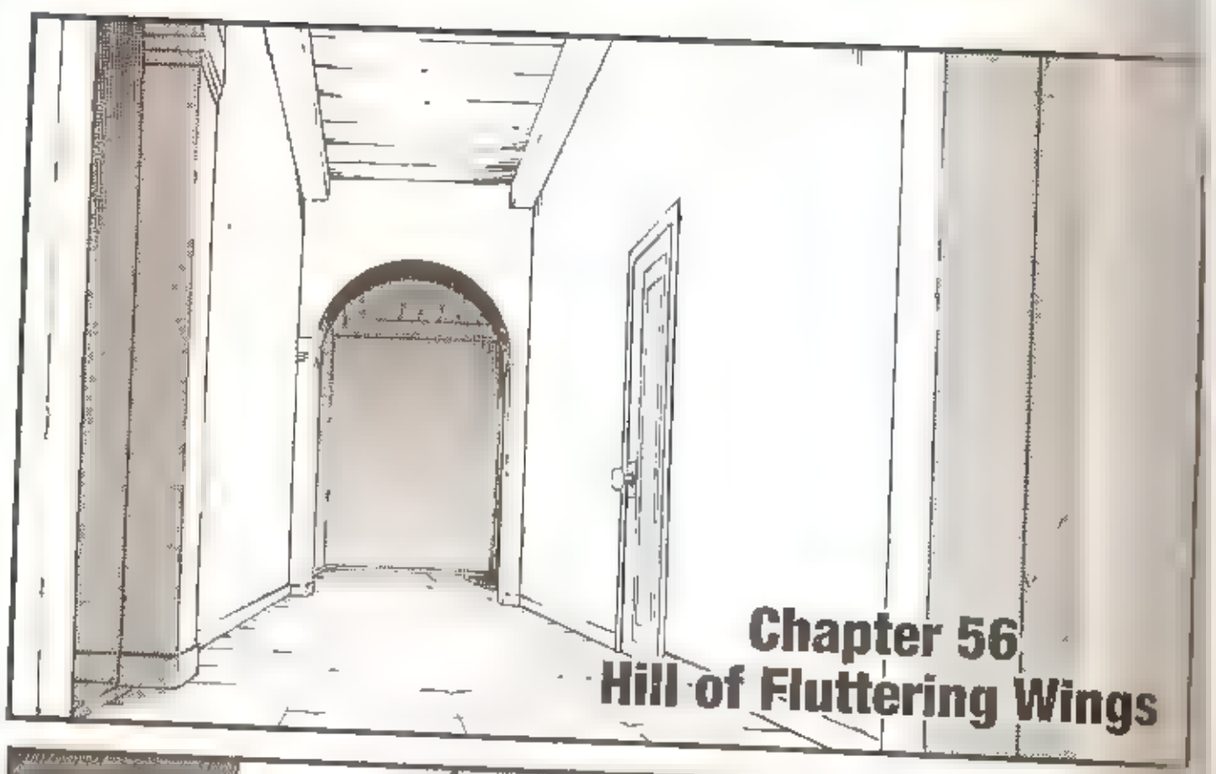
HUH?

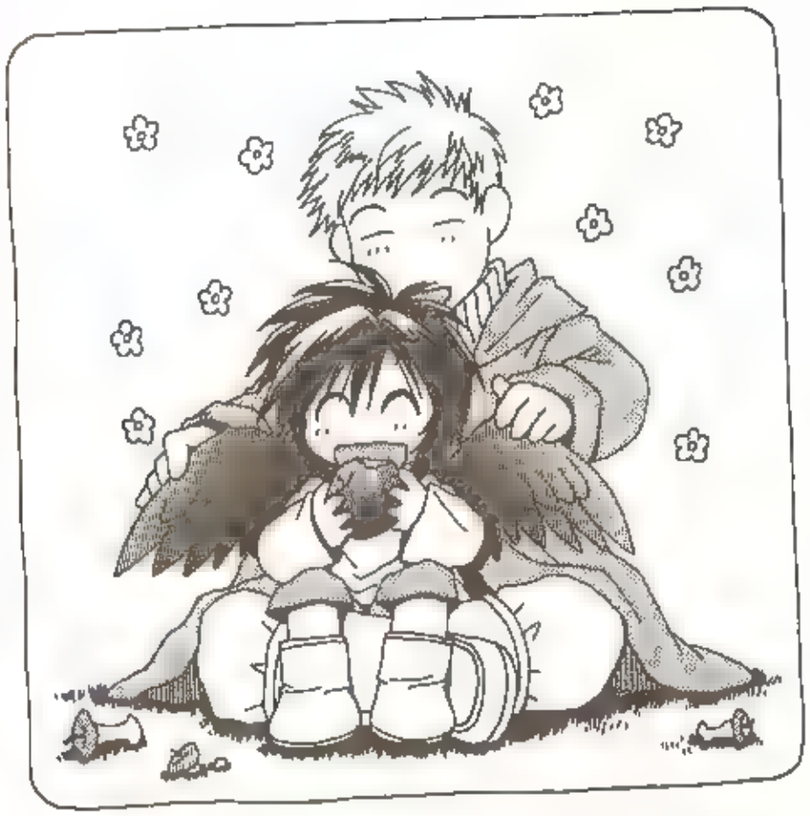
C-COORO?

WHA ...?

THE BED IS COLD

COORO?!





Tempted by some special offers...

APPARENTLY HE PROMISED MR. FLY THAT WHEN HE CAME BACK TO THE FACILITY...

...HE WOULD HAVE THE ANIMA REMOVAL OPERATION.

THE OPERATI... TO TAK... HIS ANIMA

COORO?

HAD HIS ANIMA REMOVED?!

OH NO, WHAT AM I GONNA DO?

MARCA!

IS SHE LOOKING FOR COORO, TOO?

I'LL PEEL YOU AN APPLE!

COME ON OUT!

COORO! WHERE ARE YOU?

ACK!

HEY!

SUR-GERY?

HE JUST WENT THROUGH SURGERY, SO HE SHOULDN'T MOVE AROUND MUCH.

I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM ALL MORNING.

IS HE GONE?

UH ...

DID SOME-THING HAPPEN TO COORO?!

IT WAS FOUNDED BY PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE THAT ANIMA ARE SACRED.

SINCE CROWS COME TO THEIR FUNERALS, PEOPLE FROM OTHER TOWNS THINK CROWS ARE MESSENGERS OF DEATH OR BAD OMENS.

Blah

Blah

Blah

Know-it-all Researcher

IN LILT THE EXPO... THE A... OF THE DEAD ... BE EA... BY BI...

IT'S A RELATIVELY NEW CUSTOM

YEAH!

Nod Nod

...

THAT'S WHERE COORO IS!!

LET'S GO AFTER HIM! RIGHT AWAY!

IT WON'T DO ANY GOOD TO THINK ABOUT THAT NOW!

HOW LONG AGO DID COORO--?

UM... WELL, I GUESS ABOUT FIVE HOURS ON FOOT.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO GET TO LILT FROM HERE?!

COORO

I WONDER IF THEY HAD A FUNERAL TODAY.

THE TOWN OF LILT IS IN THAT DIRECTION.

LILT?!

THAT'S WHERE COORO BECAME A +ANIMA.

LILT...

CROWS.

YOU'RE RIGHT. THERE'S A BUNCH OF THEM.

BLANCA

WAIT JUST A LITTLE LONGER...

..THEN WE'LL FLY TOGETHER.

WE'RE FINALLY A PAIR.

MR. FLY!

LORO NUOREE WANTS TO SEE YOU!

MR. FLY!

WHERE ARE YOU?

WE HAVE TO HURRY...

HURRY!

パカッパカッ

Good Luck

...OR COORO WILL BE GONE FOR GOOD!

MY...

...RE-SEARCH, YOU SAY?

I THOUGHT I MIGHT LIKE TO OBSERVE YOUR RESEARCH FROM TIME TO TIME

YOUR +ANIMA RESEARCH.

?!

GOOD GRIEF!

IS HE HERE TO HECKLE ME AGAIN?

WHAT ON EARTH...

...BRINGS YOU TO A PLACE LIKE THIS?

YOUR MAJESTY ...

WHAT ?

A WHITE ANGEL.

THIS IS BLANCA.

NO... I DON'T MEAN...!

HUH?!

Sigh

ARE YOU SAYING THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS GOD, LORD NUOREF?

THAT IS A BIRD +ANIMA OR SOME SUCH THING.

YOUR MAJESTY!

THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS ANGELS!

BUT IT CAN'T BE HELPED NOW.

I HADN'T INTENDED TO MAKE HER PUBLIC YET...

NO, IT CAN'T BE!

A-AN ANGEL?!

LORD GREENA WAS A +ANIMA?!

HE'S A +ANIMA!!

HE'S A BLACK-WINGED MESSENGER OF DEATH!

?!

FLY?!

110

!!

IT-IT'S FLYING!

KILL!!!

BLANCA!!

YOUR MAJ-ESTY!

FLY...

...

HAVE YOU BEEN POSSESSED BY THE MESSENGER OF DEATH?

LORD GREENA!

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!

"WHAT I WITNESSED ...

...WAS THE FUNERAL OF A YOUNG MOTHER WHO DIED WHILE STILL WITH CHILD."

"IN LILT, WHEN SOMEONE DIES, THEIR BODIES ARE EATEN BY CROWS."

"IT MUST HAVE BEEN NO DIFFERENT WITH THE SOUL OF THIS MOTHER."

"THE DECEASED'S SPIRIT IS TAKEN TO HEAVEN BY THE CROWS."

?!

COORO!

HUH?!

...IS NOT COORO'S ANIMA.

THAT ...

EH?!

WHAA...?! THEY SAID THEY TOOK HIS ANIMA!

COORO HAS WINGS?!

"THE BABY, WHOSE DESTINY WAS TO DIE WITH HIS MOTHER...

...MUST HAVE WANTED TO CHASE AFTER HER SPIRIT".

I...

...DON'T REALLY KNOW WHY I'M HERE.

I WANT TO GO THERE.

"HIS LONGING MUST HAVE DRAWN IN THE CROW ANIMA."

IS THAT AN ANIMA FROM ONE OF THE CROWS ON THIS HILL?

BUT IT'S NOT AN ANIMA HE NEEDS TO LIVE!

COORO!

DON'T GO!!

BLANCA ...

SHE'S SMIL-ING?

Caw!

GO AWAY!!

FLAP

FLAP

DANG IT!

OUT OF THE WAY!

YOU OWE US...

...THAT MUCH!!

FLYING

FLYING

FLYING

HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!

HEY!!

WHAT ABOUT YOU, COORO?!

DON'T JUST LEAVE US!!

TRY TELLING US WHAT YOU WANT FOR ONCE!

I DIDN'T MEAN IT WHEN I SAID GOODBYE!

COORO, I'M SORRY!

I WANT YOU TO STAY WITH US, COORO!

NO

AHH...

COORO'S ...WINGS

COORO ...

YOUR WINGS!

AH.

AH.

BLANCA ...

I'M HAPPY...

...I WAS ABLE TO FLY WITH YOU.

YOU'RE HAPPY, TOO, RIGHT?

WAS HE CRYING?

...

OH...

...IT'S YOU.

AH...

..I THINK HE WAS HAPPY.

..AFTER PUTTING ALL THE ACCOUNTS TOGETHER, AND FILLING IN THE REST WITH MY IMAGI-NATION...

BUT ...

COOOOOO

AND SO WERE THOSE CHILDREN.

MR. FLY HAS GONE MISSING.

IN THE CASTLE AND RESEARCH FACILITY, PEOPLE AVOID TALKING ABOUT HIM.

HUUUUUSKY!

DIDJA CATCH DINNER?

...MIGHT NOT BE SO FAR OFF.

Yay!

Apple

...

WHAAAT?!

HE'LL EAT IT ON THE WAY UNLESS I REMIND HIM NOT TO!

...WITH THE LUNCH.

COORO ALREADY FLEW OFF...

I WAS GOING TO ASK HIM TO TAKE HUSKY HIS LUNCH.

WHERE DID HE GO?!

You are.

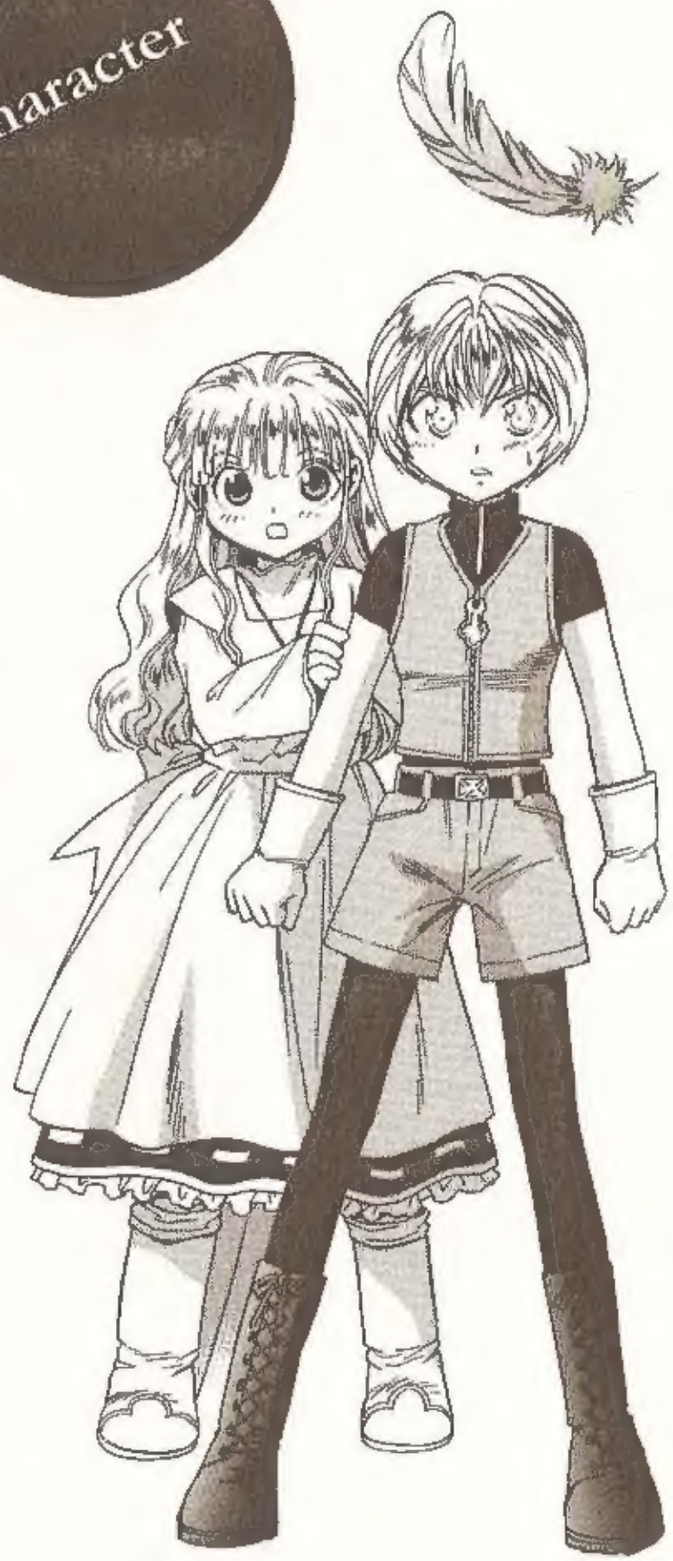
...

A-am I?

You're too nice to Cooro, Mr. Harden!

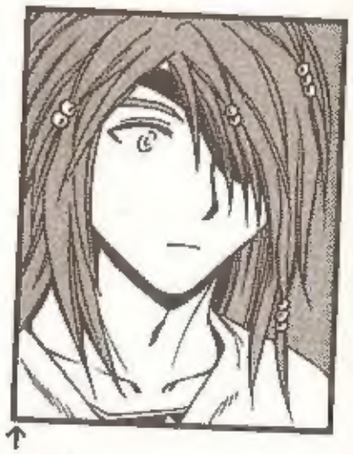
THE DAY THOSE CHILDREN'S ANIMA LEAVE THEM... (EXCEPT FOR THE KIM-UN-KUR)

Character



↑
Nana und Husky

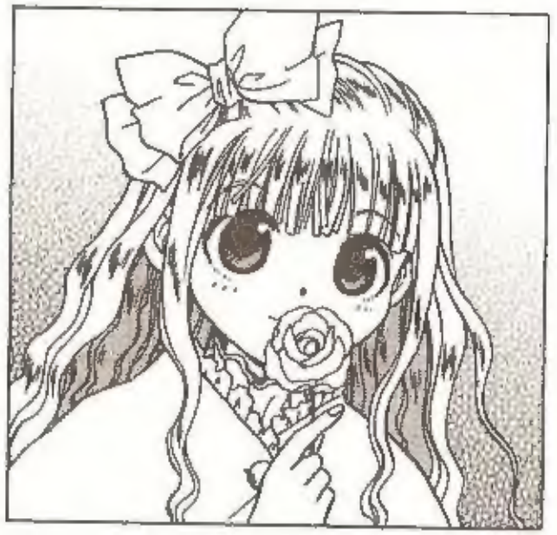
↑
Cooro



↑
Senri

P.S. +ANIMA

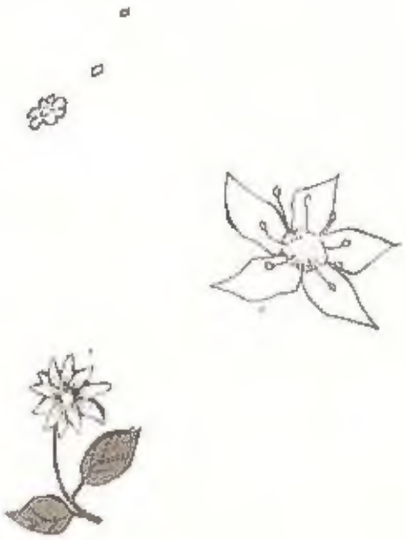
Afterword



Like Paucha in "Itadaki Shunpei!!" Nana's clothes change all the time because I wanted to draw lots of girl's clothes... ♡ And because Nana is a bat +Anima, you'd think black gothic lolita clothes would suit her very well, but Nana wasn't that type of character. She's the full-speed-ahead-on-the-floaty-frilly-girls'-highway type, so her colors are all beige-y pink. Knit hats have gotten popular in recent years, and when I'd see one with a flower motif, I'd think, "Oh! That's so Nana! ♡" Next time I draw a girl character, I want to let her wear lots of cute clothes, too.

For the next manga I draw, I want to be able to draw more humans. I want to make a series that's warm and calming. Well then, let's meet again sometime!

Natsumi Mukai



For the time being, Cooro and the others have finished their journey. Cooro has become "human" at last, and now, his new journey as a human will begin. After all, I can't imagine that he'll stay at Harden-san's place forever.

And so, umm, to all of you who stayed with the series all five years, thank you very much! (Though in Cooro's world, not even a year has passed.)

I've always liked drawing children, but I hadn't drawn them as main characters since Wander Wandering! so it was really fun. Cooro and the others are older than the kids in Wander, so they think and act more like adults, but they're not quite adults...they're at that delicate age. Well, of the four of them, that only goes for Husky and Nana. ♭

Husky and Nana are characters that are relatively easy to figure out--a boy with the face of a pretty girl, and a meddling chatterbox girl. I think they're the kind of children you often see in manga. They say whatever's on their mind, and it shows on their faces. Those two pull the story along. But the main character is really Cooro.

Cooro is very hard to figure out, and yet for some reason, he's the leader of the four. If Cooro hadn't been around, they all might not have become such good friends. Despite being hard to figure out, strangely, Cooro does things for me, and it was really fun drawing him. I like the stories in the series like "Wings of the Wind" and "The Boy Who Loved a Mermaid," where Cooro deals with boys of different ages. I especially liked "Wings of the Wind," because Cooro's personality comes out and he grows just a little bit. Plus there was goat cheese. ♪ It really is fun drawing food. I'm not a gourmet or someone who likes cooking or anything though. ♭ (A long time ago, my heart was stolen by the pink candy in "Elmer and the Dragon." ♡)

Special Thanks

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